

Hartford

Courant

VOLUME CLXXXVI

COURANT.COM

MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2022

Death spurs call for OD treatment drug

Proponents say Hartford schools should stock naloxone

By Daniela Altimari

The death of a 13-year-old Hartford boy who overdosed on fentanyl last week at the Sport and Medical Sciences Academy is spurring new calls to stock school nurses' offices with naloxone, a powerful tool to treat overdoses.

A spokesman for Hartford

Mayor Luke Bronin said Sunday that the mayor and other city leaders are looking at ways to prevent a similar tragedy. That includes providing wider access to naloxone or Narcan, the brand name for the nasal spray version of the injectable drug that can revive overdose victims in a matter of minutes.

"There's a lot that we're discussing in terms of how we can prevent something like this from happening again," said Akash Kaza, the mayor's communications director. "We are engaging in those conversations with school, police and the

[public] health team."

Josh Michtom, a member of the Hartford City Council, said he is planning to propose making the overdose-reversal drug available at city schools, as well as libraries and other public buildings.

"In all of our city institutions, including our schools, the right folks should have training in administering Narcan and recognizing overdoses," Michtom said.

Some states, including New Jersey and Rhode Island, require

Turn to Naloxone, Page 3



A spokesman for Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin said Sunday that the mayor and other city leaders are looking at ways to prevent future deaths from opioid overdoses in schools. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT



At her kitchen table, Kathy Spencer sorts the dozens of pills she must take since contracting COVID-19 in November 2020. Spencer was a teacher who liked to swim, work out and ride motorcycles long distance. Since getting sick, she has serious lung problems, among other symptoms, and requires oxygen 24 hours a day. **MARK MIRKO/THE HARTFORD COURANT PHOTOS**

Surge comes with long-COVID concerns

Thousands catching virus, but some won't get better anytime soon

By Alex Putterman | Hartford Courant

Of several hundred thousand Connecticut residents who have been or will be infected with COVID-19 during this winter's omicron variant surge, most will avoid the worst-case scenarios of severe illness, intensive care and death.

But that doesn't necessarily mean their experience with the disease will be over.

Experts say the recent wave of COVID-19 infections will almost certainly lead to a corresponding wave of "long COVID," a phenomenon in which some patients who no longer have the disease continue to experience symptoms months or even years into the future.



"My life is completely different now from how it was before I got sick."

— Kathy Spencer, contracted COVID-19 in November 2020

No one knows the exact prevalence of long COVID, but one recent study found that that between 7% and 18% of people infected with COVID-19 experienced at least some long-term symptoms. Given the number of infections in Connecticut over the past two months, that could translate to tens of thousands of long-haul cases in the state.

"The outcomes associated with a [COVID-19] infection is not just two outcomes where you're either fine or you die," Dr. Denyse Lutchmansingh, who treats long-COVID patients at the Winchester Center for Lung Disease at Yale New Haven Hospital, said. "There are people

Turn to Long COVID, Page 3

Rabbi credits security training

Says hostage-taker in synagogue grew more 'belligerent'

By Jake Bleiberg and Eric Tucker
Associated Press

COLLEYVILLE, Texas — A rabbi who was among four people held hostage at a Texas synagogue said Sunday that their captor grew "increasingly belligerent and threatening" toward the end of the 10-hour standoff, which ended with an FBI SWAT team rushing into the building and the captor's death.

Authorities identified the hostage-taker as British national Malik Faisal Akram, 44, who was killed Saturday night after the last hostages ran out of Congregation Beth Israel around 9 p.m. The FBI said there was no indication that anyone else was involved, but it had not provided a possible motive.

Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker credited security training that his suburban Fort Worth congregation has received over the years for getting him and the other three hostages through the ordeal, which he described as traumatic.

"In the last hour of our hostage crisis, the gunman became increasingly belligerent and threatening," Cytron-Walker said in a statement. "Without the instruction we received, we would not have been prepared to act and flee when the situation presented itself."

President Joe Biden called the episode an act of terror.

Akram could be heard ranting on a Facebook livestream of the services and demanding the release of Aafia Siddiqui, a Pakistani neuroscientist suspected of having ties to al-Qaida who was convicted of trying to kill U.S. Army officers in Afghanistan.

Biden, speaking to reporters Sunday in Philadelphia, said Akram allegedly purchased a weapon on the streets and might have been in the U.S. for only a few weeks.

Video from Dallas TV station WFAA showed people running out a door of the synagogue, and then a man holding a gun open-

Turn to Rabbi, Page 2

Hartford site eyed for veteran housing, museum

Focus would be state's Black Civil War regiment

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

A veterans advocate is leading an ambitious proposal to convert a building in Hartford's North End into veterans housing and a museum spotlighting Connecticut's African American Civil War regiment.

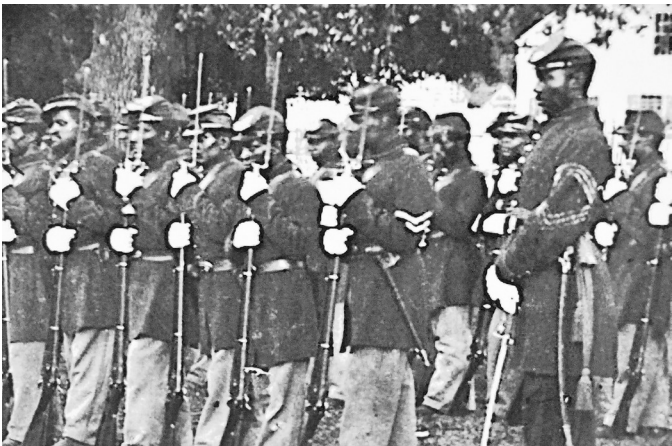
U.S. Army veteran Brigitte Prince and her partners in the multifaceted project have spoken to U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal and local officials, but the city's development director said the property must be cleared of toxins first and any proposed project

is "premature."

At this point, Prince said, the team is readying grant applications to fund the \$35 million proposal. The idea is to convert the vacant city-owned building at 2 Holcomb St. into subsidized housing and on-site services for homeless and low-income veterans, Prince said. The Holcomb Street building is known as the McCook Hospital building and has housed city offices, but has been vacant for over a decade.

The facility also would include a museum to tell the story of the 29th Regiment Connecticut Infantry (Colored), the first Union soldiers to enter the defeated Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia. The

Turn to Proposal, Page 3



One of the few known photos of the 29th Regiment Connecticut Infantry (Colored), the first Union soldiers to enter the defeated Confederate capital. The photo was taken in Beaufort, S.C. **FILE**

Firefighter takes folk act on road

With his dog along for the ride, Hartford firefighter and folk musician Charlie Diamond takes his show wherever it leads him. **CONNECTICUT, PAGE 1**

Opinion.....**News, 9**
Obits **None today**
Lottery **News, 2**
Classified.....**News, 10**
Puzzles ... **Connecticut, 7-8**
Comics ... **Connecticut, 6-7**

Hartford Courant
media group

\$3.00 Copyright 2021
The Hartford Courant Co.



6 04209 00200

FROM PAGE ONE

Getting tests a trial for some, a perk for others

By Emma Goldberg, Lauren Hirsch and David McCabe
The New York Times

The latest COVID-19 wave has left millions of Americans scrambling for tests, braving long lines in the cold at pop-up sites or searching furiously online for kits to use at home. But for a select group of employees at some of the country's largest companies, tests are free and often readily available.

Without an adequate federal system for developing and distributing rapid tests, companies have put their own testing services in place.

Google will send full-time employees in the United States free at-home tests that deliver results within minutes and retail for more than \$70 each. BlackRock, an investment firm that manages nearly \$10 trillion in assets, offers telehealth supervision as employees self-administer rapid tests for international travel. At JPMorgan Chase, bankers can order at-home rapid tests from an internal company site.

Some companies are using the tests to call their staff back to the office. For others, at-home COVID-19 testing has become the newest wellness benefit, a perk to keep employees healthy and working — even from their couches — while providing peace of mind.

The testing available to a small number of white-collar professionals underscores the difference between their pandemic experience and that of other Americans, putting them at an advantage over



A CVS store sign alerts customers the store is out of at-home COVID-19 tests in Atlanta. NICOLE CRAINE/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2021

many, including workers at small businesses without the means to procure testing kits for their staffs. Like personal protective equipment and vaccines, tests have become the latest example of how a tool to battle the pandemic can exacerbate social and economic divides.

“We’re the epicenter of the epicenter and I can’t get test kits anywhere,” said Thomas Grech, president of the Queens Chamber of Commerce, which has roughly 1,400 members that employ about 150,000 workers in the borough.

Some employers secured contracts with companies that supply or administer tests in the earlier months of the pandemic, before the omicron variant unexpectedly drove up demand. Some are incorporating testing as part of their return-to-office protocols.

Belle Haven Investments, an asset management firm in Westchester

County in New York with only 40 employees, has been storing tests in a supply closet.

“We’re trying to stockpile them,” said Laura Chapman, chief operating officer of the firm, which has not mandated a return to the office, though many workers have voluntarily come back. She added that the company was ordering only as many tests as employees are demanding, and they are facing shortages: “Those tests, man, those home tests are so hard to get.”

In the United States, the federal government has moved more slowly than other countries to authorize rapid antigen tests for everyday use. Britain, for example, was quicker to approve rapid tests as a public health tool, leading to faster production. And unlike Washington’s approach to vaccines, the development of rapid tests has until recently been mostly financed by private companies like

Abbott Laboratories. The result is a nationwide shortage of tests.

Americans who cannot get tests are often left to wait in lines that can run as long as three hours. Or they can try to buy at-home tests online or in stores. Walgreens and CVS last month announced limits on the purchase of at-home rapid test kits at stores.

But with testing kits scarce, and sorely needed by people who cannot work remotely, some public health experts question the current distribution of resources.

“There’s a few better targets than at-home white-collar workers,” said Dr. Benjamin Mazer, a pathologist in Connecticut specializing in laboratory medicine.

BlackRock, which has more than 7,600 U.S. employees and has extended its work-from-home flexibility through Jan. 28, offers its staff up to one at-home PCR testing kit each week, up to six monthly at-home antigen kits for employees or their family members exposed to COVID-19, and telehealth supervision for self-administered rapid tests needed for international travel, an option begun over the December holidays.

At Morgan Stanley, bankers can receive up to four free BinaxNOW tests every two weeks through a third party, which cost about \$40 in stores, though the shortage of tests has delayed shipment arrival. At JPMorgan Chase, where employees said they were told last month they could temporarily work from home because of the fast-spreading omicron variant, bankers can order rapid tests.

TIAA, an investment firm with

12,000 workers in the United States, began offering free at-home testing to its staff in December 2020. The majority of its employees have worked from home since the start of the pandemic, though roughly 5% had been coming into the office last year. There is no limit on the number of tests employees can order, for themselves as well as their family members, according to a spokesperson, Jessica Scott.

Google’s full-time employees in the United States have access to multiple types of coronavirus tests they can take at home, the company said. Employees have been able to request PCR tests provided by a company called BioIQ since last year. Employees collect a nasal swab at home, and it is processed in the company’s lab. Google also distributes to employees who want one a small testing device that produces results in minutes.

But for many businesses, and their workers, tests are far harder to come by.

Jesus Caicedo-Diaz, who owns Skai, a restaurant in Brooklyn, said his employees were struggling to get COVID-19 test results before the business opened at 10 a.m., with testing lines often running hours long by early morning.

Finding at-home tests is an even greater challenge. “They’re nowhere to be found. They’re all gone. If you do find them, they want \$30 for them,” Caicedo-Diaz said. “If you go to a test site they tell you your result won’t come on time. I don’t know how to navigate this. It’s driving me crazy.”

Rabbi

from Page 1
ing the same door just seconds later before he turned around and closed it. Moments later, several shots and then an explosion could be heard.

“Rest assured, we are focused,” Biden said. “The attorney general is focused and making sure that we deal with these kinds of acts.”

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement did not immediately respond to questions Sunday about Akram’s immigration status and history. London’s Metropolitan Police said in a statement that its counterterrorism police were liaising with U.S. authorities about the incident. FBI Special Agent in Charge Matt DeSarno said the hostage-taker

was specifically focused on an issue not directly connected to the Jewish community, and that there was no immediate indication that he was part of any broader plan.

It wasn’t clear why Akram chose the synagogue, though the prison where Siddiqui is serving her sentence is in Fort Worth.

Michael Finfer, the president of the congregation, said in a statement “there was a one in a million chance that the gunman picked our congregation.”

Authorities have declined to say who shot Akram, saying it was still under investigation.

Law enforcement officials who were not authorized to discuss the ongoing investigation and who spoke on the condition of anonym-

ity earlier said the hostage-taker demanded Siddiqui’s release and wanted to be allowed to speak to her.

Authorities said police were first called to the synagogue around 11 a.m. and people were evacuated from the surrounding neighborhood soon afterward.

Saturday’s services were being livestreamed on the synagogue’s Facebook page for a time. The Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported that a man could be heard ranting and talking about religion at times during the livestream, which didn’t show what was happening inside the synagogue.

Shortly before 2 p.m., the man said, “You got to do something. I don’t want to see this guy dead.” Moments later, the feed cut out. A

spokesperson for Meta Platforms Inc., the corporate successor to Facebook Inc., later confirmed that Facebook had removed the video.

Multiple people heard the hostage-taker refer to Siddiqui as his “sister” on the livestream. But John Floyd, board chair for the Houston chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations — the nation’s largest Muslim advocacy group — said Siddiqui’s brother, Mohammad Siddiqui, was not involved.

“We want the assailant to know that his actions are wicked and directly undermine those of us who are seeking justice for Dr. Aafia,” said Floyd, who also is legal counsel for Mohammad Siddiqui.

Texas resident Victoria Francis, who said she watched about an hour

of the livestream, said she heard the man rant against America and claim he had a bomb. Biden said there were apparently no explosives.

“He was just all over the map. He was pretty irritated and the more irritated he got, he’d make more threats, like ‘I’m the guy with the bomb. If you make a mistake, this is all on you.’ And he’d laugh at that,” Francis said. “He was clearly in extreme distress.”

Colleyville, a community of about 26,000 people, is about 15 miles northeast of Fort Worth.

Reached outside his home Sunday, Cytron-Walker declined to speak at length about the episode. “It’s a little overwhelming as your can imagine. It was not fun yesterday,” he said.

Hartford Courant

A TRIBUNE PUBLISHING COMPANY

Helen Bennett
Executive Editor

NEWS EXECUTIVES

Megan R. Merrigan
Director, Audience

Richard B. Green
Director, Content

BUSINESS EXECUTIVES

Mary Lou Stoneburner
Vice President, Advertising

Dana S. Bisconti
Director, Finance

Brian W. McEnery
Director, Distribution

HOW TO REACH US

The Hartford Courant and www.courant.com
P.O. Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569

860-241-6200 (Local calling area)
800-524-4242 (Outside the Hartford area)

Our Circulation Customer Service is open Monday through Friday
from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY

860-525-5555

Subscriptions, missed delivery or missing sections, vacation stops,
billing questions. For same-day redelivery, please call before 10
a.m. daily, 11:30 a.m. Sunday. All numbers are 860 area code unless
otherwise noted.

ADVERTISING 241-6221
Classified 525-2525
classified@courant.com 800-842-8824
Death notices/Obituaries 241-6392
NEWS 241-6747
SPORTS 241-6435
EDITORIAL PAGE/LETTERS 241-6595
NEWS ACCURACY AND FAIRNESS CONCERNS
E-mail readerep@courant.com
Phone 241-3902

The Hartford Courant proudly participates in a
comprehensive recycling program to help protect the
earth’s environment. You can join us by recycling this newspaper.

Published daily and Sunday by The Hartford Courant
Company (ISSN 1047-4153). Periodicals postage paid at
Hartford, CT. Postmaster send address changes to: The
Hartford Courant, P.O. Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569.
Home delivery rates: Daily and Sunday (7 days), \$1799;
*Thursday through Sunday (4 days) \$1399; *Thursday, Friday
and Sunday (3 days) \$1250; Thursday and Sunday (2 days)
\$1050; Sunday-only service \$899, includes the Thanksgiving
paper; Sunday through Friday (6 days) \$1250; Monday
through Friday (5 days) \$1250; Monday through Saturday (6
days) \$1158. All subscriptions may include up to 12 premium
issues per year. For each premium issue, your account
balance will be charged an additional fee up to \$5.99 in the
billing period when the section publishes. This will result in
shortening the length of your billing period. Premium issues
scheduled to date: 1/10/21, 2/14/21, 3/28/21, 4/18/21, 5/16/21,
6/13/21, 7/11/21, 8/8/21, 9/5/21, 10/10/21, 11/21/21, 12/19/21.
Dates are subject to change without notice. *Service not
available in all areas. Rates may vary based on subscription
length. Vacation stops do not extend expiration dates. We
may increase home delivery rates with 15 days notice. The
Hartford Courant reserves the right to revise or reject any
advertisement. Only publication of the advertisement shall
constitute acceptance of the advertisement. The Hartford
Courant shall not be responsible for the omission, in whole
or in part, of any advertisement or for any typographical or
other error. The Hartford Courant’s liability shall be limited
to the amount paid by the advertiser for the first insertion
only. In no event shall The Hartford Courant be liable for
consequential damages of any kind.

BREAKING NEWS
Be the first to know
when news breaks
SIGN UP TODAY
courant.com/newsletters

LOTTERY
Sunday, Jan. 16
PLAY3 DAY 8 5 2 WB: 8
PLAY4 DAY 5 2 3 3 WB: 8
The late lotto numbers were not drawn
in time for this edition. For results,
please visit courant.com/lottery.
SATURDAY’S LATE NUMBERS
PLAY3 NIGHT 4 3 3 WB: 1
PLAY4 NIGHT 4 7 6 4 WB: 3
CASH 5
2 20 21 24 29
LUCKY FOR LIFE
2 9 25 28 36 LB: 15
POWERBALL
3 18 37 51 59 PB: 13 PP: 2
Tuesday’s est. Lotto jackpot: \$1 million
Tuesday’s est. Mega Millions jackpot:
\$347 million
Wednesday’s est. Powerball jackpot:
\$53 million

12-MONTH CD
1.85%* APY
Insured & Guaranteed
FIRST FINANCIAL GUARANTEE
THE ORIGINAL CD LOCATOR AND FINANCIAL SERVICE CO.™
860-436-4560
Ask about our IRAs, Life Insurance and Annuities
40 Locations Nationwide
Annual percentage yield. Yield and deposit amount, subject to availability. Penalty for
early withdrawal. *Promotional incentives included to obtain yield. Certain restrictions
apply. Rates may vary depending on deposit amount.
All bank accounts are FDIC insured.

Advertise
1-2-3
it’s that easy!
Selling an item Hiring an employee
Celebrating a loved one Announcing an event
1 Schedule 2 Layout
3 Review & Submit
Self-Service Print and Online
Display and Classified Ads
See Your Options:
Visit: placeanad.tribpub.com
Chicago Tribune Hartford Courant Daily Press
THE MORNING CALL THE BALTIMORE SUN The Virginian-Pilot
Orlando Sentinel SunSentinel

Get more out of
your subscription
by setting up your
digital account
It’s easy to start
your online access!
Visit: go-activate.com
TRIBUNE PUBLISHING

FROM PAGE ONE

Naloxone

from Page 1

naloxone to be available in every public and private school building. Maryland began requiring public schools to carry naloxone and to educate students about the risk of opioid abuse in 2018.

In Connecticut, the decision is left up to individual school districts. Drug prevention experts say widespread access to Narcan, including in schools, will save lives.

“I’m not going to say this could have been prevented,” Mark Jenkins, executive director of the Connecticut Harm Reduction Alliance, said of the Hartford student’s death. “But it possibly could have been.”

The alliance has been working to make naloxone widely available since 2014. It has trained school personnel to administer the medication in various districts, including Windsor and West Hartford, as well as several private schools in the Hartford region.

Having the overdose-reversal drug available does not lead to an increase in drug use, Jenkins said.

“You have fire extinguishers in schools, but how often do you see a fire in schools?” Jenkins said. “We have to become proactive in making sure we have responses in case an overdose takes place because it’s a time-sensitive issue.”

According to the state Depart-



Buses are lined up Thursday to leave the Sport and Medical Sciences Academy in Hartford, where a seventh grader overdosed on fentanyl. **JESSICA HILL/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

ment of Public Health, 1,374 people died of a drug overdose in Connecticut in 2020, a 285% increase in less than a decade, and 85% of those deaths were caused by fentanyl.

The state does not have statistics on how many students overdose at school. Just 7.8% of the overall

drug-related deaths were in people under 25.

But the death of the 13-year-old was distressing.

“We still have much to learn about the circumstances of this tragedy, and about how a child had access to such a shocking quantity of such deadly drugs,” Bronin said

in a statement issued Saturday.

Michtom said his heart goes out to the student’s family. “If you would have asked me if fentanyl use was a big risk for middle school kids, I would have said no. Sniffing fentanyl is not where they start at that age.”

Police are continuing their inves-

tigation. The 13-year-old student, whose name is being withheld due to his age, collapsed at 10:30 a.m. Thursday during gym class at the magnet school.

A school nurse initiated CPR until fire department personnel arrived and took over, a fire official said. He was taken to Connecticut Children’s, where he died on Saturday.

Two other seventh-graders were believed to be exposed to the drug and were also transported to the hospital, officials said. Both were released to their parents Thursday night, police said.

Investigators later found nearly 40 bags of fentanyl stashed in multiple locations within the Sport and Medical Sciences Academy, in a search prompted by the student’s overdose.

“This tragic loss will raise many emotions, concerns and questions for our school community, especially our students,” Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, superintendent of Hartford Public Schools, said in a letter to parents Sunday. “Our school and district crisis Intervention Team has already been assembled and will continue to help with the needs of students, parents and school personnel.”

School social workers will be available for students and their families. Clinical psychologists from Connecticut Children’s will also be on hand to provide emotional support by phone, Torres-Rodriguez said.

Long COVID

from Page 1

who develop persistent, debilitating symptoms that affect their quality of life, even with a mild case.”

Sometime soon, COVID-19 transmission will slow in Connecticut and the state will try once again to move past the pandemic. For people with long COVID, though, it won’t be so simple.

“It’s not just like you get vaccinated and eventually the variants get weaker and we just go on with our lives,” said Kristina Unker, a Ridgefield resident still fighting symptoms a year after her COVID-19 infection. “What happens to the people who now have chronic illness?”

‘Desperate to feel better’

Before COVID-19, Berlin resident Kathy Spencer was a schoolteacher and long-distance motorcycle rider. She swam laps daily, worked out on her exercise bike and enjoyed tending to her garden.

Then came the virus. Within days of testing positive in November 2020, Spencer, then 56, found herself hospitalized with dangerously labored breathing. While doctors initially feared she wouldn’t survive, she responded well to antiviral medication and was eventually discharged.

For some patients, the story might have ended there. But Spencer’s symptoms continued, and she was soon hospitalized again with lung damage so severe that doctors said she would be eligible for a transplant.

Over the next year, Spencer says, she had 298 medical appointments in 365 days. She has been diagnosed with interstitial lung disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, mild traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder and dystonia, a disorder characterized by uncontrollable muscle contractions.

Today, she requires oxygen nearly 24 hours a day and labors to speak. Her kitchen table is jammed with medications. Instead of teaching full time, she tutors remotely about four hours a week. She can’t swim or ride her exercise bike for longer than half an hour. When she can muster the energy, she’ll take a 15-minute walk around her neighborhood, but that sometimes causes leg spasms that disrupt her sleep.

“My life is completely different now from how it was before I got sick,” she said.

Spencer’s story is extreme, but it’s not unique.

Unker had just celebrated her 40th birthday when she caught COVID-19 in January 2021. Despite exercising six days a week and having no preexisting conditions, she soon fell seriously ill, requiring multiple trips to the emergency room and a brief hospital stay. When she was discharged, it took her 10 weeks to be able to walk more than two blocks at a time.

Since then, she has faced a laundry list of symptoms.

“I’ve had everything from hair loss, to severe chest pain, really hard time breathing,” she said.

“In the beginning of my recovery I would get a package delivered to my apartment and bring it inside and open it, and that would knock me out. I’d have to lie down for hours to recover from it.”

A year later, having spent thousands in health care expenses, Unker still isn’t fully recovered. She has lesions and inflammation in her brain and has developed arthritis throughout her body.

Before her COVID-19 diagnosis, a typical day for Unker might involve a 7 a.m. alarm, a walk with her dog in the park, an intense workout, a full day at the New York-based design business she runs and an evening social gathering. Now, even a long phone call or a quick errand leaves her feeling weak.

Unker estimates that she works about half as much as she did before getting sick. Otherwise, she devotes much of her energy to



A family provided photograph shows Kathy Spencer, left, with her mom, Nancy Ayers in 2018 before Spencer contracted COVID-19 in November 2020. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

the COVID-19 Longhailer Advocacy Project, which has lobbied the federal government for resources for people suffering long-term symptoms.

“There are millions of people like me who can’t work or can’t afford to pay or can’t get the people they need,” she said. “We’re a community of people who are desperate to feel better.”

Lots of questions, few answers

Even two years into the pandemic, researchers remain uncertain about key aspects of long COVID, including how often

it occurs, who is most vulnerable to it and how best to treat it. Even the condition’s precise definition is murky, with different sources classifying it differently.

Lutchmansingh said the Winchester Center sees some patients with interstitial lung disease and airway diseases but that the most common issues — particularly among people who had milder initial COVID-19 cases — are shortness of breath and other respiratory symptoms.

Some patients, Lutchmansingh said, are older with serious underlying conditions. Others, though, are young or healthy, with no obvious risk factors.

“It’s not super clear to us yet as of

this moment as to who is the type of patient who is going to develop post-COVID symptoms,” she said.

Some long COVID patients describe bad experiences with doctors who don’t know much about the condition or who don’t take their symptoms seriously. To that end, both Yale New Haven Health and Hartford HealthCare have established post-COVID recovery centers, staffed with people who specialize in long COVID symptoms.

Lutchmansingh says long COVID is difficult to treat because no two cases are exactly alike. It’s not yet clear, she said, whether post-COVID symptoms all stem from a single condition or whether different patients have entirely distinct pathologies.

“Really and truly, we’re learning as we go along,” she said.

Some patients, Lutchmansingh said, return over time to their pre-COVID selves, some improve while still suffering some symptoms, and others will deal with severe fallout indefinitely.

Spencer, the schoolteacher from Berlin, says her condition has slowly improved over time. On a good day, she will hook up her portable oxygen concentrator to the back of her motorcycle and ride for an hour, mostly within a small radius.

“I’m the type of person where if I don’t maintain an optimistic attitude, I absolutely will get worse,” Spencer said. “And I can’t afford that.”

In recent months, Spencer has tried to share her experience as widely as possible, in hopes it will bring attention to COVID-19’s potential long-term effects. She’s proud that her story has influenced several people in her life to get vaccinated when they were otherwise hesitant.

“I need to tell my story to as many people as possible,” she said, “so they can understand it’s not just, ‘Oh, I get sick a few weeks if I catch COVID. What’s the big deal?’ ”

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.

Proposal

from Page 1

development team seeks a national historic district designation for the site and surrounding area. Prince noted that the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. had a long association with Hartford and several landmarks in the North End should be considered historical sites.

Hartford development services Director I. Charles Matthews said the city is commissioning a thorough environmental assessment of the entire campus at 80 Coventry St., which includes the building at 2 Holcomb St. and the North End Senior Center.

“We have very serious concerns about seeking a historic designation of the property until that environmental assessment is complete,” Matthews said, “because while a historic designation can be helpful for redevelopment, it can also limit the options for redevelopment and increase costs dramatically.”

City leaders share the community’s desire to see the building and the broader campus redeveloped. Matthews said. The area is one of Hartford’s 10 “potentially transformative projects” in the city plan. A map included in the plan labels the area the North End Wellness District, with the caption, “Let’s develop a cohesive identity and a new facility encompassing agricul-

ture, naturopathy and ecology to build upon existing assets, including a senior center, health care facilities, and Keney Park.”

“It’s premature,” Matthews said, “to endorse any specific proposal at this point, but we look forward to working with community partners and potential developers to identify a plan that’s right for the property, right for the community and can get the financing required to get it done.”

Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs spokeswoman Tammy Marzik said she reached out to project organizers to get more details on the proposal.

“While our agency and our community partners continue to provide temporary and permanent housing and services for veterans,” Marzik said, “there is always a need for additional options for those in need and/or homeless, especially with the various geographic locations of our veterans.”

Rich Kehoe, state director for Blumenthal, said the senator has offered to help the planners navigate potential federal funding.

An outline of planned grant applications that Prince said Blumenthal requested included a \$10 million federal grant that would be used for a museum and gift shop on the first floor of the Holcomb Street building, which had housed city offices. The museum would pay tribute not only to Connecticut’s Black soldiers



The vision for 2 Holcomb St. includes veterans housing in addition to the museum, but “it’s premature to endorse any specific proposal,” a city official said. **COURTESY**

in the Civil War, but also to the wider contributions African Americans have made to the U.S. military.

Project leaders, who Prince said also include former City Council member Cynthia Jennings and developer Krishna Naraine, also

seek to work with city officials to redesign the section of Keney Park across the street to include a monument honoring the 29th.

The 29th and 30th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry regiments were authorized by Gov. William

A. Buckingham after the General Assembly in November 1863 allowed the state to recruit Black men to fight.

The 30th regiment was merged in June 1864 with units from other states to form the 31st Regiment of U.S. Colored Infantry, while the 29th fought through the end of the war under Connecticut’s banner. Totalling about 1,700 men, the Black soldiers served heroically, suffering more than 600 casualties.

The Holcomb Street property is appraised at about \$1.77 million. The six-story building was constructed in 1920, according to the city assessor.

In urging the building’s conversion and associated projects highlighting Hartford’s African American history, project planners also note the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.’s long association with Hartford.

“Our goal is to work with EVERYONE to accomplish these very special and meaningful goals,” Prince wrote in a recent message to the team. “The Connecticut 29th Colored Volunteer Infantry Regiment Veterans Health & Human Services Complex, and Museum supplies a need. It’s a need that will positively transform the landscape, and the spirit, in Hartford’s Promise Zone.”

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.

Murthy warns of tough weeks ahead

US surgeon general says omicron peak still has not occurred

By Sabrina Imbler
The New York Times

Dr. Vivek Murthy, the U.S. surgeon general, on Sunday warned that the omicron surge of coronavirus cases had not yet peaked nationally, saying that the next few weeks would be difficult in many parts of the country as hospitalizations and deaths rise.

Murthy noted the “good news” of the plateaus and drops in known cases in the Northeast, especially in New York City and New Jersey.

But “the challenge is that the entire country is not moving at the same pace,” he said, adding that “we shouldn’t expect a national peak in the coming days.”

“The next few weeks will be tough,” he said on CNN’s “State of the Union.”

The highly contagious omicron variant has fueled an explosive surge of known cases.

Dr. Ashish Jha, dean of the Brown University School of Public Health, also expressed concerns that the next several weeks would overwhelm hospitals and staff.

“Right now, we’re at about 150,000 people in the hospital with COVID,” he said on “Fox News Sunday.” “That’s more than we’ve ever had. I expect those numbers to get substantially higher.”

In addition, omicron has brought into sharp relief the long-standing lack of adequate testing supplies, with consumers now depleting pharmacies of costly rapid tests — a boxed set of two tests ranges from \$14



COVID-19 patients lie side by side last week at Brooklyn Hospital Center in New York City. VICTOR J. BLUE/THE NEW YORK TIMES

to \$24 — and creating long lines at testing sites.

The federal government has promised to distribute 1 billion rapid at-home coronavirus tests to Americans, limiting each household to request four free tests. And new federal rules require private insurers to cover up to eight at-home tests per member a month.

But Americans will probably not have tests in hand for weeks, which may be too late in some places where demand is high as infections spread.

“We’ve ordered too few testing kits, so our testing capacity has continued to lag behind each wave,” Tom Bossert, homeland secu-

rity adviser to then-President Donald Trump, said on ABC’s “This Week.” “It’s too little and too late, but noteworthy for the next wave.”

Although many people infected with omicron have had no or mild symptoms, others — especially those who were not vaccinated and those with chronic conditions — suffered more serious illnesses that were already overwhelming hospitals in some states late last year.

Murthy disagreed with the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision last week that rejected President Joe Biden’s vaccine-or-testing mandate for large employers that would have applied to

more than 80 million workers.

“It was a setback for public health,” he said. “Because what these requirements ultimately are helpful for is not just protecting the community at large, but making our workplaces safer for workers as well as for customers.”

The court, however, did uphold a vaccine mandate for most health care workers in the country.

Nearly 63% of the U.S. population is fully vaccinated, but only 38% of those have received a booster shot, which some have argued should be the new definition of full vaccination.

The Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention has not changed the definition of full vaccination, but said recently it considers three doses of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna’s vaccines to be “up-to-date,” as well as Johnson & Johnson’s shots with a second dose, preferably of Moderna or Pfizer.

Last week, the CDC acknowledged that cloth masks do not offer as much protection as a surgical mask or respirator.

“Please, please get vaccinated,” Murthy said on ABC, issuing a reminder that the shots still provide good protection against severe illness. “It’s still not too late.”

Meanwhile, nursing homes reported a near-re-

cord of about 32,000 COVID-19 cases among residents in the week ending Jan. 9, an almost sevenfold increase from a month earlier, according to the CDC.

A total of 645 COVID-19-related deaths among residents were recorded during the same week, a 47% increase from the earlier period.

Despite the rising numbers, the situation is not as dire as it was in December 2020, when nursing home deaths per week topped out at about 6,200. Experts credit the high vaccination rates now among nursing home residents: About 87% are fully vaccinated, according to CDC data.

Nursing home officials say they are responding to the outbreak by limiting visitors to common areas instead of allowing them into residents’ rooms, and by reinstituting social distancing.

Some states, like New York, have put their own measures in place, like requiring proof of a negative test for visitors and providing all with surgical masks.

Also, about 57,200 nursing home workers had the virus in the week ending Jan. 9, a more than tenfold increase from a month earlier, according to the CDC.

Making sure that nursing home facilities have supplies like tests is crucial too, said Lisa Sanders of LeadingAge, an association of nonprofit providers of aging services, including nursing homes.

“Older adults and the people they care for should be prioritized for support and supplies as they become available,” she said.

Associated Press contributed.

Snow, ice storm rolling across parts of the South

At least 2 motorists dead as conditions deteriorate on roads

By Pamela Sampson and Kim Chandler
Associated Press

ATLANTA — A dangerous winter storm combining high winds and ice swept through parts of the Southeast on Sunday, knocking out power, felling trees and fences, and coating roads with a treacherous, frigid glaze.

Tens of thousands of customers were without power in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina and Florida. Highway patrols were reporting hundreds of vehicle accidents, and a tornado ripped through a trailer park in Florida.

More than 1,200 Sunday flights at Charlotte Douglas International were canceled — more than 90% of the airport’s Sunday schedule, according to the flight tracking service flightaware.com.

Up to 12 inches of snow had fallen in some counties of North Carolina, while significant icing caused problems in the central part of the state.

First Sgt. Christopher Knox, a spokesperson for

the North Carolina Highway Patrol, said the agency had responded to hundreds of car crashes and nearly 800 calls for service.

Two people died Sunday when their car drove off the road and into trees in a median east of Raleigh. The driver and passenger, both 41-year-old South Carolina residents, were pronounced dead at the scene of the single-vehicle crash. Knox said investigators believe excessive speed for the conditions — described as mixed winter precipitation — caused the crash.

Meanwhile, Transportation Secretary J. Eric Boyette said many roads in the central and western parts of the state were covered with ice. He said the eastern part of the state was being hit with high winds and rain.

Kristen Baker Morrow’s 6-year-old son made snow angels after their home in Crouse, North Carolina, got 4 inches of snow Sunday morning, but she said they couldn’t stay outside long because of the uncomfortable wind chill.

“It took 30 to 45 minutes to get everything on for about 10 minutes in the snow, but it was definitely worth it for him, to get our pictures and make some memories,” said Morrow, a

35-year-old registered nurse.

More than 260,000 customers were without power Sunday, according to poweroutage.us. Especially hard hit was North Carolina, with 90,000 outages. The remaining outages were in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina.

The National Weather Service confirmed that a tornado struck southwest Florida. Officials in Lee County say 27 mobile homes were destroyed and 24 incurred major damage. There were no reports of serious injuries.

Edward Murray, 81, told the Naples Daily News in southwest Florida that he was inside his mobile home Sunday morning when a tornado picked it up and tossed it on top of his neighbor’s home.

“That’s my house that’s turned upside down,” he told the newspaper. “The tornado took me off my feet blew me toward the east wall and buried me under the sink, refrigerator, kitchen chairs and everything else.”

Murray and his daughter, Cokie, escaped unharmed, crawling from the wreckage.

“I was so happy when I saw the sky,” Murray told the newspaper. “I said to the devil, ‘It’s not going to



Vehicles navigate hazardous interstate conditions Sunday as a storm moves through Mebane, N.C. Two people died when their car drove off the road east of Raleigh. GERRY BROOME/AP

be today.”

Virginia State Police said traffic came to a standstill Sunday afternoon on Interstate 81 in Roanoke County after a tractor-trailer jackknifed and the cab of the truck disconnected from the trailer in the northbound lanes. Two additional accidents occurred in the traffic backup, one with minor injuries.

The Virginia Department of Transportation said a detour was being set up. “Please stay off the roads if possible. Begging again!

Hazardous conditions,” read a tweet from VDOT’s Salem office.

The West Virginia Department of Homeland Security tweeted photos of snow-covered roads in the southern part of the state and advised residents to “keep calm and hunker down.”

The agency says the storm is moving north and most areas of the state are expected to have accumulations of 4 inches, with up to 12 inches possible in the mountains.

In Tennessee, there were multiple reports of abandoned and wrecked cars on snow-covered roads.

After lashing the South, the storm was expected to bring frigid and snowy conditions to the Northeast.

New York City was expected to be spared from most, if not all, of the snowfall, but Long Island and Connecticut coastal areas were expecting gale conditions. Upstate New York was projected to get hit with up to a foot of snow to go along with high winds.

Ukraine accuses Russia of being behind cyberattack in ‘hybrid war’

By Yuras Karmanau
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine said Sunday that Russia was behind a cyberattack that defaced its government websites and alleged that Russia is engaged in an increasing “hybrid war” against its neighbor.

The statement from the Ministry of Digital Development came a day after Microsoft said dozens of computer systems at an unspecified number of

Ukrainian government agencies had been infected with destructive malware disguised as ransomware.

That disclosure suggested the attention-grabbing defacement attack on official websites last week was a diversion.

“All evidence indicates that Russia is behind the cyberattack. Moscow continues to wage a hybrid war and is actively building up its forces in the information and cyberspaces,” the ministry statement said.

The cyberattack comes as the threat of a Russian invasion of Ukraine looms and diplomatic talks to resolve the tense standoff appear stalled.

Microsoft said in a blog post Saturday that it first detected the malware Thursday. That would coincide with the attack that simultaneously took some 70 Ukrainian government websites temporarily offline.



Sullivan

Microsoft said in a different technical post that the affected systems “span multiple government, nonprofit and information technology organizations.”

It said it did not know how many more organizations in Ukraine or elsewhere might be affected.

On Sunday, U.S. national security adviser Jake Sullivan said U.S. and private-sector companies were still working to determine the

source of the attacks.

Sullivan said the United States has warned for months about the possibility of cyberattacks from Russia and has been working with Ukraine to improve that country’s defenses.

“This is part of the Russian playbook,” he said on CBS television’s “Face the Nation” program.

Oleh Derevianko, a top private-sector cybersecurity executive in Kyiv, said the intruders penetrated the government networks

through a shared software supplier in a supply-chain attack like the 2020 SolarWinds Russian cyberespionage campaign that targeted the U.S. government.

In 2017, Russia targeted Ukraine with one of the most damaging cyberattacks on record with the NotPetya virus, causing more than \$10 billion in damage globally.

That virus, also disguised as ransomware, was a so-called wiper that erased entire networks, experts said.

5-Star Hotel Sheets for 50-80% Less



Yep, you read that right. Hotel-quality, 100% European Flax Linen bedding. 400+ 5-star reviews. Comes in 7 colors. All for 50-80% less than comparable brands. Because you deserve it.

**QUINCE
SHEETS**
PRICES STARTING AT
\$129.⁹⁰
FITTED SHEET, FLAT SHEET
AND PILLOWCASES

**FREE
SHIPPING
& 365-DAY
RETURNS**

QUALITY LUXURY GOODS AT RADICALLY LOW PRICES.
BECAUSE NICE THINGS SHOULDN'T COST A LOT.

Quince
ONLY AT ONEQUINCE.COM

Join us for a free **virtual class**

What is your lower back pain telling you?

Join our interactive class right from the comfort of your phone, computer or tablet and learn more about:

- Common conditions that cause back pain
- When to consider surgical options
- Types of procedures and recovery times
- Plus, LIVE Q&A with the expert

Mon., Jan. 24 | 5:30–6:30pm



PRESENTER:
Jesse Eisler, MD, PhD
Board-certified in orthopedic surgery
Hartford Hospital

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
Call 1.855.HHC.HERE (1.855.442.4373) or go to
HartfordHealthCare.org/VirtualClasses
After you register, you'll receive an email with
easy instructions on joining the virtual class.

**Hartford
HealthCare**
Bone & Joint Institute

Nirenstein, Horowitz & Associates P.C. Attorneys at Law

200 Glastonbury Boulevard, Suite 202
Glastonbury, CT 06033

**6 Complimentary
Workshops
Get Your Legal
Affairs in Order NOW**



Barry Horowitz & Edward Lowe

My name is Barry Horowitz. I am a founding partner and president of the law firm of Nirenstein, Horowitz & Associates P.C. We practice exclusively in the areas of Wills, Trusts, Estate Planning, and Elder Law.

Our Law Firm is hosting **SIX COMPLIMENTARY WORKSHOPS** in Hartford, Windham & Fairfield counties to explain options families have to get their legal affairs in order.

As you can imagine, we receive numerous calls from people who ask us questions like:

- “Are my Will & POA valid?”
- “Why should I have a Trust instead of a Will?”
- “Will my family be forced to deal with PROBATE when I die?”
- “Will my family be able to make medical decisions for me if I get sick?”
- “How can I ensure I am NOT forced to go into a nursing home?”
- “Can I protect my property from being taken by the state if I go into a nursing home?”

We cannot answer these questions in a telephone call. As each family is unique. We know that a workshop is the best way for us to educate people about these issues.

These workshops allow us to give you this important information in a safe, sanitized & comfortable environment.

I teach many of the classes. I am a senior partner with the firm, and am a frequent speaker on trusts, wills, and proper estate planning. One of our associate attorneys, Edward Lowe, may be speaking. Attorney Lowe has been practicing law in Connecticut for 5 years, and is also dedicated to helping clients with their estate planning needs.

You must call and make a reservation if you wish to attend. *Seating is limited.* Therefore, if you want to attend one of the workshops, please call as soon as possible to reserve your seat.

Safety First:

The workshops have limited seating in sanitized rooms.

Face masks may be required depending on town mandate.

6 Complimentary Workshops

SOUTHINGTON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 18
10:00AM - 12:00NOON
(CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST)
SOUTHINGTON COUNTRY CLUB
(BACK NINE TAVERN)
150 SAVAGE STREET

WOODSTOCK
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19
2:00PM - 4:00PM
(REFRESHMENTS)
THE INN AT
WOODSTOCK HILL
94 PLAINE HILL ROAD

WOODSTOCK
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19
7:00PM - 9:00PM
(COFFEE & DESSERT)
THE INN AT WOODSTOCK HILL
94 PLAINE HILL ROAD

MANCHESTER
THURSDAY, JANUARY 20
10:00AM - 12:00NOON
(CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST)
CAFÉ AURA
45 EAST CENTER STREET

MANCHESTER
THURSDAY, JANUARY 20
7:00PM - 9:00PM
(COFFEE & DESSERT)
CAFÉ AURA
45 EAST CENTER STREET

NORWALK
SATURDAY, JANUARY 22
10:00AM - 12:00NOON
(CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST)
DOUBLETREE HOTEL
789 CONNECTICUT AVENUE

Call us Today at (860) 548-1000 or register
online at www.preserveyourestate.net

Seating is VERY LIMITED.
Please call as soon as possible to reserve your seat.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFS

Netanyahu said to be negotiating plea deal in corruption trial

From news services

TEL AVIV, Israel — Former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is negotiating a plea deal in his corruption case, a person involved in the talks said Sunday.

The deal, which could be signed as early as this week, could usher Netanyahu off the Israeli political stage for years, paving the way for a leadership race in his Likud party and shaking up Israeli politics. Any deal could spare Netanyahu an embarrassing and protracted trial over an issue that has gripped the nation and risks tarnishing his legacy.

Reports of a deal angered critics who said it would undermine the rule of law.

“The man who worked to destroy the public’s trust in the foundations of democracy for personal reasons is not eligible for deals,” Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz tweeted. He was referring to Netanyahu’s attempts after he was indicted to cast doubt on Israel’s justice system, saying it was biased and pursuing a witch hunt against him.

Demonstrators gathered against the developing deal outside the attorney general’s house Saturday evening. Any deal will likely be challenged in court.

A spokesman for Netanyahu declined to comment.

Netanyahu is on trial for fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes in three separate cases. The former premier, now opposition leader, denies wrongdoing.

The person involved in the negotiations said the plea deal would drop the bribery and fraud charges and scrap one case entirely.

The person asked for anonymity because he wasn’t authorized to discuss the details of the talks. He

said a plea deal would likely be announced in the coming days.

The person said a number of elements remained unresolved, including the inclusion of the charge of “moral turpitude,” which under Israeli law would ban Netanyahu from politics for seven years. They were also deliberating whether Netanyahu would be forced to do community service under the deal.

Including “moral turpitude” would challenge Netanyahu’s vows to return to lead the country after his 12-year reign was ended last year by a coalition of ideologically disparate parties with little in common other than its opposition to his leadership. But Netanyahu, dubbed a political wizard for his ability to survive repeated attempts at ending his rule, could make a comeback when the ban expires. He would be nearly 80.

Helicopter pilot: The pilot of a medical helicopter that crash-landed without loss of life next to a church in a residential area of suburban Philadelphia last week expressed gratitude to his crew and first responders as he was released from a hospital Sunday.

The pilot, whose name has not been officially released, was wheeled out of the Penn Presbyterian Medical Center emergency room Sunday morning to applause from police and other first responders and spoke to reporters before being taken home by ambulance with a police escort.

“I’m just feeling fortunate, you know — I had God as my co-pilot that day and we took care of the crew and we landed in his front yard, so that was kind of nice,” he said.

The Eurocopter EC135 medical helicopter owned by



Chinese virus tests: The city of Xi’an began lifting some virus restrictions after more than three weeks of lockdown as authorities sought to stamp out a local outbreak before the Beijing Winter Olympic Games in February. The city, which is 600 miles southwest of Beijing, went into lockdown Dec. 22. Above, a man gets swabbed Sunday in Beijing. **ANDY WON/AP**

Denver-based Air Methods, part of the LifeNet program based in Hagerstown, Maryland, was also transporting an infant girl and two other crew members when it came down at about 1 p.m. Tuesday next to Drexel Hill United Methodist Church in Upper Darby.

The pilot said he didn’t remember “much of anything” about the crash, crediting other crew with rescuing him and getting the young patient to an ambulance.

“I remember waking up and looking up and seeing a whole company of firefighters looking down at me and that’s a real good feeling,” he said, expressing gratitude to first responders and the medical team treating him.

Pacific volcano: New Zealand’s military on Monday morning was able to send a surveillance flight to Tonga to assess the extent of the damage from a huge undersea volcanic eruption.

A towering ash cloud had

prevented the military from launching any flights earlier to the Pacific island nation.

People on Tonga described their country as looking like a moonscape as they began the task of cleaning up from the tsunami waves and ash fall caused by the eruption. Communications with the island nation remained limited after the internet was cut soon after the eruption on Saturday evening.

There were no reports of injuries or deaths.

Serbian vote: Serbia held a referendum Sunday on constitutional amendments that the populist government says are needed for the Balkan country to advance in a bid to join the European Union.

The ballot focuses on the changes in the election of judges and prosecutors that authorities say are aimed at boosting their independence in the country where the judiciary is widely seen as corrupt and politically

controlled.

About 6.5 million Serbian citizens were eligible to vote in the referendum. A simple majority of those who turn out decide on the outcome. Official results were expected on Monday.

Celebrated Greek painter: Alekos Fassianos, one of the most important modern Greek painters, died Sunday at his home after a long illness, the state news agency ANA reported. He was 86.

Alekos Fassianos was born Dec. 16, 1935, in Athens.

He studied violin at the Athens Conservatory and painting at the Athens School of Fine Arts from 1955 to 1960.

Fassianos was widely celebrated in Greece and many of his works adorn public spaces, including a mural at an Athens subway station.

In France, he was made a commander of the Order of Arts and Letters and an officer of the Legion of Honor.

He exhibited widely in Europe and Latin America.

Fassianos is survived by his wife, Mariza, and two daughters.

Former Mali president: Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, the former president of Mali who took office in a landmark election held after a destabilizing coup only to be ousted in another military takeover nearly seven years later, has died. He was 76.

Keita, known to Malians by his initials IBK, had been in declining health since his forced resignation in August 2020, and had sought medical treatment in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, shortly after his release from junta custody.

The transitional government, which is still led by the man who ousted Keita from power 18 months ago, issued a statement saying that his death Sunday in Bamako followed “a long illness.”

He is survived by his wife, Aminata Maiga Keita, and their four children.



Adopt US Kids



I asked what kind of family Amina wanted. She said, ‘A family like yours.’ That’s when I knew I had to adopt her.

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



LEARN ABOUT ADOPTING A TEEN
YOU CAN’T IMAGINE THE REWARD

ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG



NEW YEARS SAVINGS!

HEATING • COOLING • PLUMBING

Save \$2022

EXPIRES 1/31/22. CALL FOR DETAILS.

Save up to \$2,022 on a NEW Heating & Cooling System

HUGE Winter SAVINGS

YOU CHOOSE YOUR **FREE UPGRADE:**

- Brand New Water Heater
- Brand New Humidifier
- Purified Indoor Air Solutions
- And SO MUCH MORE!

CALL NOW FOR DETAILS!



100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

FREE UPGRADE WORTH UP TO \$2,022! OFFER ENDS 1/31/22

FREE UPGRADE

WITH PURCHASE OF A NEW HEATING & COOLING SYSTEM

Save \$2022

HEATING • COOLING • PLUMBING  CALL NOW FOR DETAILS!



- 24/7 SERVICE
- ZERO EMERGENCY FEES
- NIGHTS, WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS

LIMITED TIME ONLY! Offer Expires 1/31/22

PROTECT YOUR SYSTEMS ALL YEAR

\$99 TUNE-UP NOW \$49 SPRING TUNE-UP

PLUS! NO BREAKDOWN GUARANTEE

HEATING • COOLING • PLUMBING  CALL NOW FOR DETAILS!

BUY OUR BEST SYSTEM TODAY, INSTALL TOMORROW

OR IT'S FREE!

HEATING • COOLING • PLUMBING  CALL NOW FOR DETAILS!

(860) 215-3576

© HARP Home Services LLC. All Rights Reserved. SHM.0004090-SM1 (Sheet Metal) - HTG.0388411-S1 (HVAC) - PLM.0281015-P1 (Plumbing) - ELC.0200971-E1 (Electrical)





WINTER ICE BREAKER SAVINGS ARE HERE!

Stay Warm, Save Energy, and...

SAVE 50% ON INSTALLATION



INFINITY from **MARVIN**

8X STRONGER THAN VINYL

It's a DiGiorgi

There are **No Better Replacement Windows and No Better Time to Save!**

CALL NOW!

877-916-4556

NO PAYMENTS NO INTEREST UNTIL 2023

Offer expires March 31, 2022. Some restrictions apply. Not valid on prior sales. Cannot be combined with other offers.



Get the DiGiorgi Advantage Today!

Call 877-916-4556

The More You Compare, The Better We Look!





THE WINDOW NATION VIRTUAL HOME SHOW EXTRAVAGANZA





Schedule Your No Cost Estimate Today!

CALL TODAY

888.537.9255

PAY NOTHING FOR 2 YEARS!

BUY 2 WINDOWS GET 2 FREE

The More You Buy, The More You Save



BRINGING THE HOME SHOW & ITS SAVINGS TO YOU



Offer Valid on Potomac and Imperial LS Models. 4 Window Minimum. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Excludes Labor. Financing offers a no payment - no interest feature (during the "promotional period") on your purchase at an APR of 17.99%. No finance charges will accrue on your account during the promotional period, as set forth in your Truth in Lending Disclosures, and you will not have to pay a monthly payment until the promotional period has ended. If you repay your purchase in full before the end of the promotional period you will not have to pay any finance charges. You may also prepay your account at any time without penalty. Financing is subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. Normal late charges apply once the promotional period has ended. Offer expires on 1/31/2022.

Some schools loosen pandemic rules

Tested and bested by virus, US colleges start to shift tactics

By **Stephanie Saul and Anemona Hartocollis**
The New York Times

As the omicron surge spreads across the country, sending COVID-19 case counts to new heights and disrupting daily life, some universities are preparing for a new phase of the pandemic — one that acknowledges that the virus is here to stay and requires a rethinking of how to handle life on campus.

Schools are asking: Should there still be mass testing? Does there need to be contact tracing? What about tracking the number of cases — and posting them on campus dashboards? And when there is a spike in cases, do classes need to go remote?

Universities from Northeastern in Boston to the University of California, Davis have begun to discuss COVID-19 in “endemic” terms — a shift from reacting to each spike of cases as a crisis to the reality of living with it daily. And in some cases, there has been backlash.

“I think we’re in a period of transition, hopefully to an endemic phase,” said Martha Pollack, president of Cornell University. “I say ‘hopefully’ because with this pandemic, we don’t know what’s coming next.”

Most universities are still acting with caution. They are delaying the start of in-person classes and warning students that case counts could explode because of omicron. They are encouraging, if not requiring, students to get booster shots. Many are handing out self-testing kits and KN95 masks. And for the most part, they are following basic protocols for quarantine and isolation, albeit for reduced periods of time, as recommended by the Centers for



Kayla Bierman and Thalia Andris eat breakfast outdoors Friday at Rice University in Houston. As the omicron surge spreads across the country, some universities are rethinking how to handle life on campus. **ANNIE MULLIGAN/THE NEW YORK TIMES**

Disease Control and Prevention.

Yet some universities are also saying that spikes in cases do not have to be as disruptive as they were in the earlier waves of the pandemic.

E. Gordon Gee, president of West Virginia University, said at this point, it would be a strategic mistake to make short-term, reactive decisions, like closing down classrooms.

“I think there is a rush to do something immediate, and that kind of is a panic push, which I don’t like,” he said. “We’ll never go back to where we were; those days are done. This is what life is about. We have the delta. Next year, when you and I take a flu shot, we’re going to take it with a dose of COVID vaccine.”

Some universities are even loosening what were once strict rules for quarantining and isolation. Harvard

is instituting what it calls an “isolate-in-place policy,” meaning that students who test positive would, with some exceptions, stay in their dorm rooms, even with roommates. A school email suggests having “a conversation” about how to handle things if a roommate got sick.

“That’s messy, that’s really messy,” said Milagros Costabel Bionda, a first-year student. “We also have shared bathrooms.” Harvard declined to comment.

The University of Wyoming announced recently that its COVID-19 approach was moving from “containment to management,” abandoning the mass testing it instituted last year. Last fall, the school tested 10,000 people over four days, according to Chad Baldwin, associate vice president for communications and marketing.

Yet public health experts are cautioning that campus

officials should not move too quickly.

“You’ll hear that people are tired of the restrictions and the regulations, and it is concerning to me,” said Gerri Smith Taylor, co-chair of the COVID-19 task force for the American College Health Association. “I don’t think we have all the data in on omicron and delta.”

Taylor said her organization is awaiting new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. An agency spokesperson said recommendations were imminent.

At University of California, Davis, Chancellor Gary May faced a strong negative reaction after a Dec. 30 statement in which he characterized the omicron variant as “milder” and suggested a shift to “living with COVID-19 at an endemic level.”

Classes were expected to resume in person Jan. 10.

But a petition signed by 7,500 people, referenc-

ing May’s use of the term “endemic,” accused the university of “not prioritizing the immunocompromised, the disabled, unvaccinated people, children, those who live with people from any of these groups, or the general health of the public.”

Most in-person classes have now been delayed until Jan. 31.

Rice University, with 8,000 students, moved many classes to remote instruction this month and encouraged students to delay returning to campus until late January. And, like many schools, it recently required students and employees to get booster shots.

Yet its president, David Leebron, sees his campus, in Houston, soon entering what he called a “posture that recognizes COVID-19 as endemic.”

“What this means going forward is generally fewer restrictions that inhibit our

activities,” Leebron wrote to the Rice community. He envisions larger gatherings and less isolation.

Leebron noted in an interview that there has not been a serious COVID-19 case within the campus community in months and that he worries about the pandemic’s fallout.

“Across campus, there are mental health issues,” he said. “If we have a disease that for college-age vaccinated people does not pose a serious risk, those other factors need to be taken into account.”

Cornell University, in Ithaca, New York, is trying to shift focus away from case counts. The university has used a color-coded system — green, yellow, red — to flag the rate of infection. After an alarming spike in cases in December, the university shut down part of the campus and moved final exams online.

For this semester, the university has kept the color-coding but adapted the guidelines to recognize that almost everyone is vaccinated, including 99% of students and 100% of the faculty.

The goal now is not to shut down, she said, but to stay open as much as possible. That means, among other things, a short period of remote learning this winter and mask mandates indoors. Students will be asked not to socialize in large groups during the buffer period.

Risa Lieberwitz, president of the Cornell chapter of the American Association of University Professors, said that a shift in tactics was reasonable.

But she worried that faculty who had valid health reasons for teaching online would be hurt.

She pointed to a message to faculty saying that “full-time remote teaching is not an allowable substitute for in-person instruction.”

This belied the notion that faculty members could ask for exceptions, she said.



A mourner hugs the father of fire victim Ousmane Konteh, 2, after a mass funeral service Sunday at the Islamic Cultural Center for the Bronx in New York. **YUKI IWAMURA/AP**

Outpouring of grief as victims of Bronx fire are laid to rest

By **Bobby Caina Calvan**
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A Bronx community gathered Sunday to pay its final respects to perished loved ones, a week after a fire filled a high-rise apartment building with thick, suffocating smoke that killed 17 people, including eight children.

The mass funeral capped a week of prayers and mourning within a close-knit community hailing from West Africa, most with connections to the tiny country of Gambia.

Amid the mourning, there was also frustration and anger as family, friends and neighbors of the dead tried to make sense of the tragedy.

“This is a sad situation. But everything comes from God. Tragedies always happen, we just thank Allah that we can all come together,” said Haji Dukuray, the uncle of Haja Dukuray, who died with three of her children and her husband.

The dead ranged in age from 2 to 50. Entire families were killed, including a family of five. Others would

leave behind orphaned children.

There were 15 caskets in all that lined the front of the prayer hall. They ranged in size — some no bigger than small coffee tables, containing the bodies of the youngest children who died.

“One week they were with us ... now they’re gone,” said Musa Kabba, the imam at the Masjid-Ur-Rahmah mosque, where many of the deceased had prayed.

Last week, burial services were held for two children at a mosque in Harlem.

After Sunday’s services in New York City, 11 caskets were transported to a cemetery in New Jersey for burial. Four of the victims were expected to be repatriated to Gambia, as requested by their families, a Gambian government official attending the service said.

All week, family members had been anxious to lay their loved ones to rest to honor Islamic tradition, which calls for burial as soon after death as possible. But complications over identifying the victims delayed their release to funeral homes.

All of the dead collapsed

and died after being overcome by smoke while trying to descend down the stairway, which acted as a flue for the heavy smoke.

The funeral was held at the Islamic Cultural Center, 2 miles from the 19-story apartment building where New York City’s deadliest fire in three decades unfolded.

Hundreds filled the mosque and many hundreds more filled tents outside or huddled in the cold to pay their respects. The services were beamed onto jumbo screens outside and in other rooms of the mosque.

Because of the magnitude of the tragedy, funeral organizers insisted on a public funeral to bring attention to the plight of immigrant families across New York City.

“There’s outcry. There’s injustice. There’s neglect,” said Sheikh Musa Drammeh, who was among those leading the response to the tragedy.

Officials blamed a faulty space heater in a third-floor apartment for the blaze, which spewed plumes of smoke that quickly rose through the stairwell of the 19-story building.

Teen aviator hopes to inspire others by setting global record

By **Raf Casert**
Associated Press

BRUSSELS — Avoid typhoon in the Philippines. Check.

Steer clear of massive California wildfires. Check.

Keep away from test missiles in North Korea. What? Wait.

As teenage pilot Zara Rutherford flew ever onward in a record-challenging global odyssey, she met little as strange or scary as when she tried to squeeze in between North Korean airspace and a massive cloud threatening to cut off passage for her ultralight plane.

“Well, they test missiles once in a while without warning,” Rutherford said. More importantly, she was just 15 minutes from flying over one of the last places one should enter uninvited.

So she radioed her control team to ask if she could cut the corner over the isolationist communist dictatorship to get to Seoul. “Straight away they said: ‘Whatever you do, do not go into North Korean airspace!’” Fortunately the clouds cooperated enough and she didn’t have to continue the crash course in applied geopolitics.

At the age of 19, she is set to land her single-seater Shark sport aircraft in Kortrijk, Belgium, on Monday, more than 150 days after setting out from there to become the youngest woman to circumnavigate the world solo. U.S. aviator Shaesta Waiz was 30 when she set the previous benchmark.

Flying runs in Rutherford’s blood since both her parents are pilots and she has been traveling in small planes since she was 6. At 14, she started flying herself and about 130 hours of solo flights prepped her for the record attempt, which she hopes will also have a bigger meaning.

With the final touchdown



Zara Rutherford, 19, waves from her ultralight plane before taking off Aug. 18 from Kortrijk, Belgium. **VIRGINIA MAYO/AP**

in a plane that looks like a fly among the giants parked at an airport like New York’s JFK, the Belgian-British teenager wants to infuse young women and girls worldwide with the spirit of aviation — and an enthusiasm for studies in the exact sciences, mathematics, engineering and technology.

Two mathematical statistics stand out for her — only 5% of commercial pilots and 15% of computer scientists are women.

“The gender gap is huge,” she said.

Yet once the canopy closed over her cockpit and another six- to eight-hour flight began, lofty thoughts of global outreach receded as she concentrated on one lonely individual — herself.

Using Visual Flight Rules, basically going on sight only, danger lurked even closer than when she would be able to use fancy navigational instruments to lead her through the night, clouds or fog.

Crossing northern California from Palo Alto towards Seattle, she headed into the huge wildfires blighting the area. The higher she climbed to avoid the smoke — up to 10,000 feet — the tougher it was to keep her eyes on the ground.

“The smoke was building up and up, to the point

that the whole cabin stank of smoke and I could not see anything but a burnished orange color,” Rutherford said. She had to abort her route and make an unscheduled landing in Redding, California.

Over Siberia, the light played tricks on her vision, sometimes casting doubt whether she saw mountains or clouds. “And for me clouds are a really big deal. Especially in Russia,” with its biting cold. Cutting through such clouds, too much ice might build up on her wings, paralyzing control. “At that point your plane is no longer a plane,” she said.

That, or any other mishap, could have happened on a section of the route where she once saw only one village in six hours.

The project would have been tough enough in normal times, but the pandemic added another complication — which indirectly led to the North Korean adventure.

Alternative plans to go over China to Seoul were ditched when the Chinese government refused permission citing COVID-19, which, Rutherford said, “was slightly frustrating because I’m in the plane at 6,000 feet. I’d be very impressed if I could pass on COVID like this.”

Helen Bennett
Executive Editor
hbennett@courant.com

OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION

OP-ED

Why sanction threats won't be enough

By **George F. Will**
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When Klaus Fuchs, the German physicist and Soviet spy who stole information about the Manhattan Project, died in East Germany in 1988, no high Soviet official attended his funeral. But a 35-year-old KGB agent stationed in Dresden did: Vladimir Putin. In 1990, after East Germany lurched out of the Soviet orbit, Putin drove home to a comparatively backward Russia with a trophy of socialist achievement strapped to the roof of his car: a washing machine.

Putin is a coarse fabric woven of humiliations and grudges, with a common thread: Loathing of NATO is the distillation of his smoldering fury about Russia's, and hence his, diminishment. When President Joe Biden speaks of Putin's security "concerns," Biden adopts Putin's cynical vocabulary, thereby giving a patina of normal geopolitics to what actually is more radical and sinister: the aggressive cultural illiberalism and wounded national vanity that fuel Putin's assault on Europe's norms and security architecture.

It has been well said that the most important event in Russian politics in this century happened outside Russia: Ukraine's Orange Revolution of 2004-2005, which expressed a broad revulsion against Russia and yearning for a Western orientation. Hence the audacity of Putin's claims that Russians and the 44 million Ukrainians are "one people." Rhetoric that flaunts the speaker's contempt for reality — last May, Putin said the Soviet Union fought Hitler "alone" — can be a precursor of audacious actions to violently revise reality.

In 1994, Russia signed the Budapest Memorandum, under which Ukraine yielded the 1,900 nuclear weapons on its territory, and Russia agreed to "respect the independence and sovereignty and existing borders of Ukraine" and to "refrain from the threat or use of force" against it. This agreement was shredded in 2014, a time when Ukrainian demonstrations advocated a substantial trade agreement with the European Union. Putin annexed Crimea and launched the ongoing war in eastern Ukraine that has killed more than 14,000 people.

Two years ago, Lilia Shevtsova, the author of "Putin's Russia," wrote "Russia's Ukraine Obsession" for the Journal of Democracy. She argued that Ukraine's pivot toward Europe, and away from Russia's attempt to reduce Ukraine to the status of "an ersatz state," poses "civilizational challenges": "The Kremlin's actions in and propaganda about Ukraine



Russian President Vladimir Putin has demanded an end to NATO "military activity" in Eastern Europe, including in member states such as Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. **ALEXEI NIKOLSKY/AP**

have been aimed, in part, at stamping out the very idea of European values." And at warning Russians about "the price of showing insubordination."

Therefore, Shevtsova wrote, Putin does not want a face-saving de-escalation. He wants to prevent a Westernized Ukraine from becoming "a dangerous model for emulation," a demonstration that "a society that has experienced the same history of Sovietization as Russia is capable of overcoming this legacy and becoming a rule-of-law state." Unfortunately, "Russia's determination to make Ukraine ungovernable often seems stronger than Europe's commitment to helping Ukraine to move forward along its chosen pro-European trajectory."

Abandoning Ukraine to Putin, she wrote, would be "a deeply embarrassing defeat for the liberal democracies." Of which there are fewer than there once were.

Recourse to sanctions has become the default setting for U.S. policy and a

substitute for effective policies. Writing in the Financial Times, Megan Greene of Harvard's Kennedy School says the U.S. government's tabulation is that the use of sanctions has increased 933 percent between 2000 and 2021. "Russia," she says, "is already heavily sanctioned," with no discernible improving effect on Russia's behavior regarding Ukraine, cyberattacks, the assassination of Putin's opponents abroad or domestic civil liberties.

Russia is not just a "gas station masquerading as a country" (John McCain) and not just "sitting on top of an economy that has nuclear weapons and oil wells and nothing else" (Biden). Russia also has ambitions, neuroses and no compunction about using war — and disruptions and subversions that blur the distinction between peace and war — to advance its ambitions and assuage its neuroses.

At a nearly four-hour news conference last month, Putin seemed to object even

to missile-interceptor systems, which are definitionally defensive, in Poland and Romania, both NATO members. His multiplying demands amount to control of Ukraine's foreign policy. And the neutering of NATO: He demands an end to NATO "military activity" in Eastern Europe, including in member states such as Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

The E.U. should help hasten Ukraine's compliance with criteria for membership, and NATO should move significant military assets closer to Ukraine. The United States and NATO, says Secretary of State Antony Blinken, have an "unwavering commitment ... to Ukraine's territorial integrity." NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg says that although Ukraine is not a member, it "is a partner, a highly valued partner." Prove it.

George F. Will writes on politics and domestic and foreign affairs for The Washington Post.

OP-ED

When did health care stop being about care?

By **John J. Houlihan Jr.**
and **Julianne Lombardo Klaassen**

A lawsuit filed in federal court last week by St. Francis Medical Center against Hartford HealthCare contains allegations that, if true, are troubling. The suit alleges, essentially, that Hartford HealthCare is attempting to create a health care monopoly by using illegal business practices to buy up physician groups and other health care services in an effort to "crush" St. Francis.

The lawsuit, which is seeking a permanent injunction and monetary damages, states that Hartford Hospital engaged in a campaign of anti-competitive practices and intimidation to obtain and expand its market dominance, which has resulted in a lower quality of care that is more expensive for patients. St. Francis claims that doctors and practice groups have been manipulated by corporate executives to drive down competition and restrict referrals.

In the midst of a global pandemic in which Connecticut's health care professionals have been on the front lines, a lawsuit containing serious allegations of illegal activity and lesser quality of care by one hospital against another comes as a shock to the system. Where does this leave patients?

A model of integrated health care has benefits; it can be reassuring to know that all of your doctors are under the same umbrella, that there is a team approach to your care. When this integration becomes a wholesale swallowing up of all competition, as St. Francis claims, it can leave patients with very few choices. As a worst-case scenario, it can squash innovation, restrict access to cutting-edge, life-saving technology and limit a patient's ability to obtain an unbiased second opinion.

St. Francis' allegations will surely be hotly contested. Two of the state's largest health care systems are poised to engage in what could be an epic courtroom battle over "hundreds of millions of dollars." The litigation might shed much-needed light on the corporate interests underlying health care in Connecticut.

How this will all shake out is unclear. What is clear is that it will be resolved by our talented and independent judiciary, along with citizen jurors. Jurors who happen to be patients.

John J. Houlihan Jr. is the managing partner at the Hartford law firm of RisCassi & Davis. He is an adjunct professor of law at UConn and a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. Julianne Lombardo Klaassen is an attorney at RisCassi and Davis.



A lawsuit filed by St. Francis Medical Center alleges Hartford Hospital has engaged in a campaign of anti-competitive practices and intimidation to obtain and expand its market dominance. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

If election was fixed, how did GOP gain seats?

On the anniversary of the Jan. 6 insurrection, President Joe Biden carefully listed the defeated former president's lies and disproven election claims (confirmed by multiple recounts and court rulings). While Republicans in Congress actually gained seats relying on the same ballots on which Trump topped the ticket, somehow Trump's loss by more than 7 million votes was because of "election fraud." So how did those Republicans manage to win on the same "fraudulent" ballots? Shouldn't their ballots be recounted thrice and checked too?

It seems obvious that the Republican false claim of election fraud is only a pretense to enact voter suppression laws.

Note that the Republican Party apparently lacks policies that would attract sentient voters. Thus, gerrymandering and making voting hard for minorities is its best chance to retain power.

Scott MacDonald, Higganum

Disappointed in response to Jan. 6 riots

Last week marked the one-year anniversary of a dark day in American history. Thousands of domestic terrorists seized control of the Capitol in an attempted coup to keep Donald Trump in office, and to murder police, lawmakers and the vice president in the process. The official governmental response to these atrocities is beyond disappointing, and beyond comprehension. Why on earth should citizens be satisfied that only 700 or so of these terrorists now face charges — mostly low-level trespassing charges?

Federal investigators should not stop until every person who invaded the building, or was anywhere on the Capitol grounds where they weren't authorized to be that day, is mercilessly pursued until found, charged, tried and imprisoned for a lengthy term.

Ellen E Wilson, Canterbury

AG Tong, Lamont helped spur retail theft problems

The Courant's lack of context in its coverage of Attorney General William Tong's and Gov. Ned Lamont's recent attention to organized retail theft is disappointing [courant.com, Dec. 15, "Connecticut task force will tackle online market for stolen goods"]. Your article didn't tell

us who would be on this task force, its mission or why Tong, who has no jurisdiction over criminal matters, is even involved. More important is what was left unsaid: California has cited one reason for this problem is a change in its law to make thefts of up to \$1,000 misdemeanors. That was the law in Connecticut until the legislature changed it. Now the value of goods stolen has to be more than \$2,000 in Connecticut for the offense to be a felony. This change was urged by the Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and supported by Tong when he was a state rep (HB 6576).

Connecticut also has a law addressing organized theft rings called the persistent larceny offender statute, which increased shoplifting to a low-level felony upon a third conviction. Unfortunately, it's provisions were gutted in 2019, again at the urging of The Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Who signed the law gutting our persistent larceny offender statute? Gov. Lamont (SB 1055). The irony is richer than my Christmas cheesecake.

Joe Cyr, Bristol

Tell Us Your Story

Please send us your true stories, written in your voice.



Love Etc. Stories from the heart — your essays about emotional life in the 21st century.



Why I... In which you explain why you feel so strongly about something in Connecticut.



First Person: In which you explain a deeply private issue against the backdrop of social and economic forces.



Living Here: What is it really like to live in Connecticut?

We welcome all submissions and will publish the best. We especially look for younger writers and those whose voices aren't heard often enough. Essays should be 600-700 words, written in the first person and emailed to oped@courant.com.

Hartford Courant

CONNECTICUT

COURANT.COM/CONNECTICUT

Year starts with two pedestrian deaths

Hartford already has had half as many deadly collisions as last year despite safety measures

By Christine Dempsey
Hartford Courant

With two pedestrian traffic deaths since the start of the new year, Hartford already has the same number of deadly collisions with walkers, joggers and bicyclists it had in all of 2017.

It's too early to tell if this will be a year like 2018, when city streets claimed 10 lives — the most in decades. City leaders, who have

made traffic safety a priority in recent years, hope that's not the case.

"Nationwide, we have an epidemic of traffic deaths," said Nat Gale, Hartford's director of Capital Projects and Operations. "Forty thousand people a year die in traffic crashes, so there's a lot of work to be done to reverse those trends."

"Our vehicles are getting bigger, and our roads are designed for

higher speeds," he said. "We know that speed is the No. 1 predictor of death in a traffic crash."

Speed and reckless operation are believed to be factors in the hit-and-run death of Michael Brown, 51, only minutes into the new year, police said. Brown, from Windsor, was struck on the 2000 block of Main Street, near Battles Street. He was rushed to St. Francis Hospital, where he later died.

Police learned the driver who left the scene was in a black Infiniti G35. They later found the car, but not the driver. Officers seized the vehicle and are combing it for

evidence, police said.

A week later, Jan. 8, about 11:30 p.m., a woman was hit by a car at Franklin Avenue and Bliss Street on the other side of the city. Yarilis Esteras, 43, who lived nearby on Adelaide Street, was taken to Hartford Hospital, where she also later died, police said.

The driver stayed at the scene. Early indications are that Esteras may have tried to cross the street in an unsafe manner, according to police. They continue to investigate.

The number of fatal pedestrian collisions in Hartford soared from

two in 2017 to 10 in 2018 — a year one city staffer called "horrendous." Police said they don't know why there were so many deaths that year.

Hartford wasn't alone. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, there were 208 more pedestrian deaths (a 3.4% increase) and 51 more bicyclist fatalities (a 6.4% increase) nationally from 2017 to 2018, for a total of 259 more than the previous year.

Since then, the number of deadly pedestrian collisions in Hartford

Turn to Pedestrians, Page 2



With the pandemic, "I've definitely become more of a loner," says musician Charlie Diamond, but his English mastiff, Jupiter, is his travel partner and constant companion. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT

GOING WHERE THE MUSIC TAKES HIM

With his dog along for the ride, Hartford firefighter hits stages throughout region

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

Charlie Diamond is a firefighter with wanderlust. Fortunately, Charlie Diamond is also a musician.

"My two favorite things in the world," says the Enfield singer and songwriter, "are traveling and music. It makes me feel fresh, gets stories going in my head."

Diamond turns those stories into songs and shares them with appreciative audiences throughout New England. That is where his wanderlust comes in handy. He likes to find small clubs and open mics in out-of-the-way places. He's performed inside barns,

alongside rivers and at camping grounds.

"I hop in my pickup with my dog and head out to Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts — and lately I've been getting into the Hudson Valley," Diamond says.

He has a demanding job, but one that allows him time to get away.

"I'm a firefighter in Hartford. Our schedule's really great. Music is one of my passions and travel is another one, so that's how I spend my time when I'm not working."

Along for the ride is Diamond's 3-year-old, 170-pound English mastiff. "He goes everywhere with me."

Turn to Diamond, Page 2



Musician and Hartford firefighter Charles Diamond says in recent years he has drawn creative inspiration for his songs from driving, hiking and performing around the state, especially at night, "When the stars are out," he said, "it's easier to daydream."

Justices: Pellet gun not a firearm

State's high court reverses sentence for convicted felon

By Edmund H. Mahony
Hartford Courant

The state Supreme Court has spared a convicted felon an additional 4 ½ years in prison by concluding that the air-powered pellet gun he was accused of possessing in violation of his probation is not a firearm under the definition spelled out in state law.

Ramon Lopez was on probation after eight years in prison for assault when, in 2018, the police in Bristol accused him of possession of a BB gun and a handgun that fired air-propelled, plastic pellets. He was charged with criminal possession of a firearm by a felon — a charge that would violate the terms of his probation.

A Superior Court Judge agreed with the police in Bristol. Lopez was sentenced to another eight years of incarceration, suspended after 56 months, and ordered to serve another 1,273 days of probation upon his release. In addition to customary probationary prohibitions against firearm possession upon release, Lopez was told that he was "not to possess any pellet guns, BB guns, zip guns, cap guns, or anything of that nature, or any firearm replicas, [or] anything that looks like a pistol, handgun, rifle, shotgun, assault weapon or the like."

Lopez's lawyer Jon Schoenhorn appealed, arguing that the BB and pellet guns were not true firearms as defined by state law. The Supreme Court agreed to take the case directly and released an unusually swift decision late Friday only about a month after hearing arguments.

The court, in a unanimous decision written by Justice Steven D. Ecker, concluded that, in order to prove that a pellet gun is capable of discharging a shot is a weapon, the prosecutors must prove that it is "designed for violence" and "capable of inflicting death or serious bodily harm." Prosecutors failed to produce evidence justifying either point in

Turn to Court, Page 2

Rebounding Lucky Taco expands to Vernon

Focus is quick service, takeout as Manchester spot gets back on track

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

Erin Emmons has ridden out the pandemic with the same hopeful highs and frustrating lows as any other restaurant owner. Now, the proprietor of Lucky Taco is rebounding. Her full-service Manchester spot is back on track. Her to-go satellite in Manchester is set to reopen in the spring. Her Vernon location finally opened in October, a year after she signed the lease.

And the new location now offers takeout, a boon to a site at a busy rush-hour intersection just off Exit 67 of I-84. After months of heartache, Emmons is optimistic.



Artwork by Bri Dill, of Manchester, hangs at Lucky Taco in Vernon.

"Last spring we cut our hours down in Manchester. Now it's open Tuesday to Saturday for both lunch and dinner. We're starting to bulk up on the staff. We're seeing people

coming back," Emmons said. "If you want sit-down service, you can go to Manchester. If you want quick service, you can come here. We give people the choice of both."

The Vernon store is spacious enough that social distancing is easy. The tables are spread far apart. Emmons is ready to add more seating when the pandemic wanes. That is, if another COVID issue — the supply-chain bottleneck — eases up.

"I ordered tables and chairs. I got the chairs. But I don't know where the tables are," she said, laughing. This continues the problems that delayed the Vernon opening for so long. "It was late for every single reason you could think of but especially material delays and equipment delays."

Almost everything available at

Turn to Lucky, Page 2



Tacos, burritos and burrito bowls come in many meat and veggie options at Lucky Taco in Vernon, which also offers local microbrews, other beers, margaritas and soft drinks. SUSAN DUNNE PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT

CONNECTICUT

Diamond

from Page 1

Locally, Diamond says he’s likely to play at the Buttonwood Tree in Middletown in February (the date is yet to be confirmed), and is looking to get into some of the state’s folk music festivals. Meanwhile, there are always “tons of venues and bars and coffee shops” to explore. Diamond’s not picky about where he finds an audience.

“I love playing farms. Maybe I’ll find a cool coffee shop. In Vermont, in the Windsor area, I have friends who own a cool property with an awesome barn.”

Diamond says he tries to hit a different open mic every night of the week. A typical week might find him at open mics at Luthier’s Co-op in Easthampton, Mass., on Tuesday, the Maple Tree Cafe in Simsbury on Wednesday, the Southwick Inn in Southwick, Mass., on Thursday and Lasalle Market in Collinsville on Friday.

“It’s great playing open mics. You only have three songs for people to get to know you.”

All the songs he plays are originals. Unlike some frequenters of the open mic

scene, Diamond doesn’t dash off right after his set.

“I love listening to the other people, talking to people afterward.”

His performances can be as basic as folk gigs were a century ago, perhaps in some of the same barns: “It’s just me, my guitar and my harmonica.” He admits to owning “a ton of guitars, but I usually head out with just one. Never had an issue with the guitar. I bring a few extra strings.”

When travel opportunities and open venues were lacking during the first wave of COVID-19, Diamond didn’t forsake his music. He booked time at the Recording Parlor studio in Windsor and made an album.

“I wrote the whole album in a month. I felt insanely creative,” he said.

For those who haven’t been able to catch his act at their local farm or stream, Diamond is releasing the album Tuesday through iTunes, Amazon, Spotify and the other common music streaming services.

Its title sums up his performance philosophy: “From One Place to the Next.” The seven songs on the album mix grand universal statements with small lived-in details.

“A Change Is Coming” is

in the tradition of “change” songs from Sam Cooke’s “A Change Is Gonna Come” to Barry McGuire’s “Eve of Destruction.”

“It’s a blend of my life and everything that’s going on right now,” Diamond says. “I’m very patriotic, but sometimes the government can be frustrating.”

One of the most Bob Dylanesque numbers on the album, “Masked Marauder,” contains the iconic yelps and shouts and harmonica blasts of early-days Dylan, but its lyrics convey a personal odyssey of a musician in search of a gig.

Diamond’s delivery is lively, full of pent-up energy. “Me and Ruthie” is an ode to youthful idealism, a mad rush through New York nightclubs and protests and art galleries that proclaims “Dreams will make you live.” Diamond is filming a video for that song next month.

Diamond, 36, has been playing since he was a child and has been in bands since he was a teenager, but his fondness for folk music is rather recent.

“I was playing a blend of Johnny Cash and Elvis” — styles his deep voice is well suited for — “then I just gravitated toward folk stuff. I like Bob Dylan for his

lyrics, but I’m hardcore into Pete Seeger. I wish I knew how to play the banjo.”

The traveling bug that makes him a true troubadour comes from an outdoorsy childhood in Granby and living part of his adult life in Virginia.

“I spent a lot of time out in the woods growing up,” Diamond says. “Before I got into folk, I did more conventional songs. These are longer, more in depth, more like storytelling. On the road, my imagination runs wild. I get lost, find small towns, meet people, and that’s what I write songs about.”

Diamond played and sang everything on “From One Place to the Next” himself, except for the atmospheric organ on “Me and Ruthie,” which is played by his friend Greg Johnson.

“My dream would be to turn this music thing into a living,” Diamond says, but his unpredictable, peripatetic performance schedule and lyrics like “Masked Marauder,” show that he is realistic about his chances.

In a way, he’s already living the dream: “I just enjoy getting out and meeting people.”

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

22-year-old fatally shot in Hamden

Staff report

HAMDEN — A 22-year-old Hamden man who was shot late Saturday night has died, police said.

The man, who has not been identified pending notification of his family, was found inside a car on Fairview Avenue at about 10:45 p.m. when officers responded to a report of shots fired, police said in a release.

The victim was pronounced dead at the scene, police said in the release.

Police said ballistic

evidence and multiple handguns were recovered at the crime scene.

The Medical Examiner’s office and Connecticut State Police are assisting with the homicide investigation, Hamden police said in the release.

Anyone with information or surveillance video related to this shooting is asked to contact Detective Jomo Crawford of the Hamden Police Department Major Crimes Unit at 203-230-4048. Any information provided can remain confidential, police said.

One found dead after Watertown house fire

Staff report

WATERTOWN — A person was found dead in a home that was the site of a fire late Saturday night, police said.

The person, who has not been identified, was found in a multifamily home in the 200 block of Main Street in the Oakville section after police and fire teams responded to the site on a

report of a fire just before midnight Saturday, police said.

“The residence is a multifamily residence with three levels,” police said in a release. “Upon arrival, personnel found the residence engulfed in fire. One person was found to be deceased.”

The cause of the fire remains under investigation, police said.

Pedestrians

from Page 1

has been much lower and has held steady, with four deaths each year, three years in a row, from 2019-2021.

Safety efforts

Regardless, Hartford has been working hard to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety.

“Here in the city, we’re involved in a multi-department effort to reduce traffic crashes,” Gale said.

In June, the city council adopted a Complete Streets Plan, which lays out ways to make Hartford’s streets more walkable. The plan notes the shortcomings of roads designed for car travel but not for bikes or pedestrians. A third of Hartford households don’t have access to a car, so many walk or bike.

The plan points to things Hartford is doing right as well as what it lacks. For example, the city already has more than 50 fluores-



A two-way bicycle track runs on one side of Main Street in front of the federal courthouse in downtown Hartford in this Complete Streets Plan rendering by Stantec, project consultant for the Re-Imagining Main Street project. STANTEC

cent yellow pedestrian crossing signs that stand in the street to warn drivers to slow down.

Gale ticked off a list of things Hartford is doing to make the capital city safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. The city:

- Installed 70 speed humps (which are shorter than speed bumps) on residential streets last year;
- Reduced Wethersfield

Avenue, where a bicyclist died in a hit-and-run collision in 2020, to one lane in each direction. The city also added center turn lanes and “physically protected” bike lanes with flexible posts along the busy travel lanes. Such traffic-calming measures are planned in places all over the city;

- Plans to set a citywide speed limit of 25 mph. A recent vote by the state

legislature that allows towns and cities to set their own speed limits makes this possible.

The city also is working toward getting state approval to install red light traffic cameras at intersections, which would lead to warnings for drivers who blow through red lights. And officials are considering building curb extensions, which bump curbs out into travel lanes, in spots to get drivers to slow down, Gale said.

The state, too, addressed pedestrian safety when the legislature passed laws that went into effect in October. One was the law giving local control over speed limits and another requires drivers to stop for pedestrians who raise their hands at crosswalks.

As Kafi Rouse, director of communications for the state Department of Transportation, said in September, “Often, pedestrians think a driver sees them when they actually don’t.”

Christine Dempsey may be reached at cdempsey@courant.com.

Lucky

from Page 1

the Manchester restaurant is available in Vernon.

“We can’t do nachos. We don’t have an oven,” Emmons said. Meats and beans are roasted in the commissary kitchen in Manchester and brought to Vernon.

Tacos, burritos and burrito bowls come in many meat and veg options: carnitas, cheesesteak, stewed chicken, grilled chicken, beef picadillo, shaved rib eye, kung pao chicken, adobo shrimp, buffalo chicken, Thai chicken,

jerk pork, Nashville hot chicken, ginger-marinated fish, Cajun sweet potato, black beans and portabella. Wings, soups, salads, quesadillas and jalapeno poppers are offered.

Draft, bottled and canned beers, margaritas and soft drinks are available. Emmons said if things go well, she may build a full bar.

Emmons said as horrible as the pandemic has been, she has learned a lot that will carry over permanently.

“Make sure everyone knows how to do every single position. Before the pandemic, I was front

of house, administration. After it started, I became a line cook full time. If someone is a cashier, they might be asked to cook, to wash dishes, to do stocking, to top the tacos,” she said. “I am very happy to train. Cross-training got us through.”

She also learned the importance of flexibility.

“You hear new information daily. No day is the same,” she said. “It’s so important to be flexible to adjust to what is important today.”

The new store is filled with many artworks. Many of them are by local artist Heather Herindeen, all

for sale. Emmons said she is looking for more local artists for the Manchester and Vernon stores. Interested artists can email getluckytacos@gmail.com.

Lucky Taco Vernon, at 81 East St., is open Wednesday to Saturday noon to 8 p.m. Those who want takeout on Fridays or Saturdays are advised to call early. First responders, police officers and members of the military get 20% off every day. On Wednesdays, hospital workers get 15% off. For more info, visit luckytacocct.com.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

PETS UP FOR ADOPTION



Princess

Princess hails from the island of Bali where she was rescued from the streets and rehabilitated. She will thrive in a very special home where she can feel loved and secure. Her adult family will need to be very understanding of her shy ways, will give her an active life, a fenced-in yard and will have a dog of her size to give her confidence. Princess is 20 pounds, around 2 years old and crate trained. To learn more, please contact Our Companions at 860-242-9999 or email Helpline@OurCompanions.org.

For more information or to submit a pet for adoption, please email pets@courant.com.

Please include a photo, a description of the pet including age and personality, and contact information including an email address and a phone number.



Laurel


Laurel is a very sweet, affectionate 3-year-old girl who was found as a stray. She loves to be held, to play and to be petted. She needs to be the only pet in the home but would be great with children. Laurel is not quite ready to go to a home yet, but is ready to meet potential adopters. Contact Cat Tales today for an appointment. No dogs. No cats. For more information, go to CatTalesCT.org/cats/Laurel or call 860-344-9043 or email info@CatTalesCT.org.



Chandler

Chandler is a 10-week-old female who was rescued along with her siblings who are going to their new homes. Chandler is wishing for a permanent home of her own where she can get the love and care she deserves. If interested, call AFOC at 860-693-0303 for more information.

RISK OF PREDIABETES:
1 IN 3 ADULTS







LIFE DOESN'T ALWAYS
GIVE YOU TIME TO
CHANGE THE OUTCOME.

PREDIABETES DOES.

RISK OF
SHARK ATTACK:
1 IN 11.5 MILLION

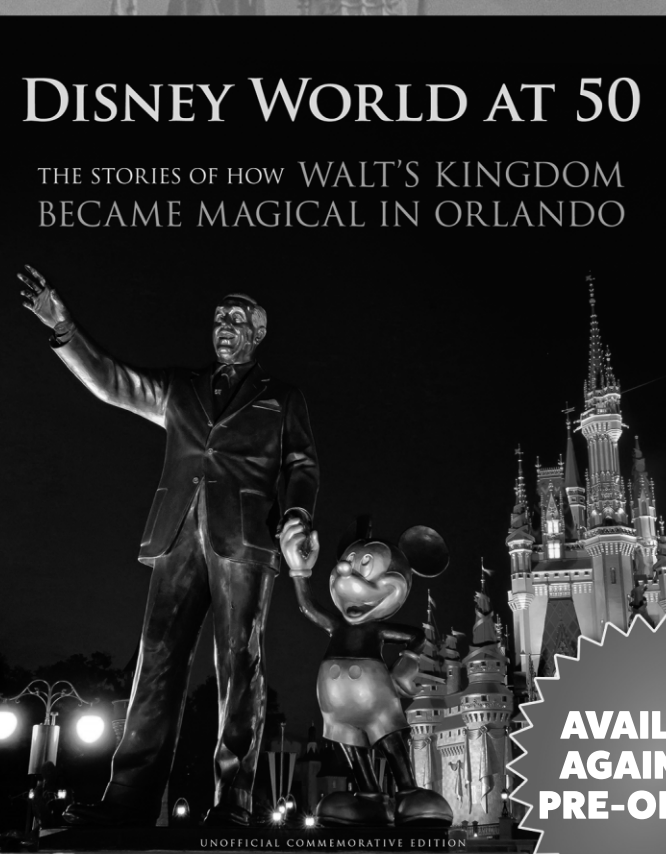
TAKE THE RISK TEST TODAY AT
[DoIHavePrediabetes.org](https://doi.havediabetes.org)





DISNEY WORLD AT 50

THE STORIES OF HOW WALT'S KINGDOM
BECAME MAGICAL IN ORLANDO



AVAILABLE
AGAIN FOR
PRE-ORDER!

UNOFFICIAL COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

Disney World at 50

Celebrate the rich and fascinating history of Disney World with this stunning retrospective, featuring original coverage and over 100 photos from our archives.

TRIBUNE
PUBLISHING

Shop now at
tribpub.com/disneybook
or call (866) 545-3534

*Available for pre-order only.
Books will begin to ship on or before 2/28/22.

We can help you make your home beautiful and maintenance free with new Vinyl Siding!

1/2 OFF SIDING INSTALLATION

NOW UNTIL JANUARY 31, 2022!



AWS
Advanced Window Systems, LLC
Windows • Siding • Roofing • Doors

CALL TODAY! 860-926-5133

Connecticut Registration #0556507 Massachusetts Registration #176974 Licensed and Fully Insured. Offer Valid 1/1/22-1/31/22.
*This ad supersedes all others. *Some restrictions may apply. *Offers cannot be combined.

NOW PLAYING Reviews of movies showing
in theaters or streaming online

‘ENCANTO’: The latest Disney Animation film, “Encanto,” sweeps audiences away to a colorful, enchanted world of Colombian magical realism, introducing the Madrigal family, who have each been granted extraordinary gifts, except one, our hero, Mirabel (Stefanie Beatriz), who has yet to discover her own personal magic. The Madrigal family magic was borne out of extreme trauma and pain, when matriarch Abuela Alma (Maria Cecilia Botero) lost her husband while fleeing violence in their village. In desperation, she cried out for protection for herself and her infant triplets, and a magical candle raised mountains around a charmed casita, where she’s raised her family since. Each Madrigal receives their gift in a coming-of-age ceremony. The only exception to the magical rule so far is the sweet, smart Mirabel, who never received her gift, and has since felt like the family outcast, bending over backward to earn her place among them. As she starts to see cracks in the foundation of their beloved casita, Mirabel probes deeper in to the family’s magic, and ultimately realizes that all of her family members are caught in the trap of perfectionism. 1:39. 3 stars. — *Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service*

‘A HERO’: Asgar Farhadi’s latest, “A Hero,” boasts the filmmaker’s usual high level of unassuming craft; a superb cast; and a couple of limitations, though not flaws, worth noting. The setting is the Iranian city of Shiraz. There, Rahim, played by Amir Jadidi with an air of serene resignation, has been jailed in debtors’ prison. The scowling creditor controlling his

fate helped Rahim start a business — he’s a calligrapher and painter by trade — but he wants his loans repaid. Rahim needs money, quickly, in order to buy his way out of prison and settle the debts while on a two-day pass. Streaming on Amazon Prime Video Jan. 21. 2:07. 3 stars. — *Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune*

‘ITALIAN STUDIES’: Alina (Vanessa Kirby) enters the warm embrace of a party on the arm of her dashing husband. A young woman watches her carefully from the corner, and later, when Alina bums a cigarette from her, she’ll ask Alina, “Do you remember me?” Alina doesn’t. It’s the first of many lapses in memory that mark the elliptical, lyrical “Italian Studies,” written and directed by Adam Leon. “Italian Studies” is a unique curio of a film, a free sketch of time and place melting together into a singular subjective experience, begging the question, “Does memory matter?” Perhaps it does not. Maybe forgetting who we are for a moment is a portal to our own liberation. But it seems more apt to say that it’s the remembering of who we were when we weren’t so set in our own personas and purposes that’s the key to getting back to ourselves. Streaming on demand. 1:21. 3 stars. — *Katie Walsh*

‘LICORICE PIZZA’: Gary Valentine is almost famous. This enterprising hustler parlays his demi-fame into a kind of accidental-on-purpose mystique, that of a 15-year-old LA whiz kid, with one foot in the Industry as a child actor and the other in whatever he’s cooking up at the moment. “Licorice Pizza,” writer-director

Paul Thomas Anderson’s gloriously hazy hangout of a movie, starts from the premise of this San Fernando Valley high schooler putting his idea of “the moves” on 25-year-old Alana. She works as a photographer’s assistant. He first spies her when he’s in line for picture day. Their queasy age difference makes Gary’s ardor, in Alana’s eyes, a foolish delusion. Yet Alana — as played, indelibly, by Alana Haim of the Grammy-nominated sisters band Haim — finds herself weirdly charmed by this boy/man. 2:13. 3 ½ stars. — *Michael Phillips*

‘THE MATRIX RESURRECTIONS’: When the Wachowski siblings, Lana and Lilly, changed the film landscape (and popular culture) forever with 1999’s “The Matrix,” a philosophical sci-fi film starring Keanu Reeves that questioned the very nature of existence itself, it was no surprise that the studio behind the movie, Warner Bros., asked them to make a few more. They obliged in 2003, with “The Matrix Reloaded” and “The Matrix Revolutions,” though the sequels effectively killed off the idea that we’d ever hang with Neo and Trinity again. But the powers that be will always want more, and so a sequel to the trilogy, “The Matrix Resurrections,” arrives 18 years later. But this isn’t just another rehash. Rather, the film asks us to question the utility of sequels, reboots and the constant churn of intellectual property, especially when the original lesson of “The Matrix” was to awaken oneself to the system and then bring the whole thing crashing down. 2:28. 3 stars. — *Katie Walsh*

‘SCREAM’: It’s only appropriate for a fan to be anxious about a new “Scream” movie, especially one that arrives 11 years after the last installment, and 25 years after the first film reanimated the slasher genre. What made “Scream” so revolutionary in 1996 was its ironic self-reflection; a slasher movie that plucked the genre from the straight-to-VHS discount bin and held it up as art by dissecting all of the rules and conventions of its formula, while turning a mirror on the media landscape. Kevin Williamson wrote witty, wordy reams of dialogue for these characters, rat-a-tat analyses of horror tropes that made “Scream” something of a screwball slasher. If they knew the rules, they could survive the night, or so the wisdom goes. Once again, “Scream” is telling it like it is, and it’s even blunter this time. And that’s not the only cultural commentary this film has to dish out. The killer behind the Ghostface mask will inevitably deliver a delicious monologue explaining their motivations: Did the movies make them do it? Or did they want to make it into the movies? Is there a difference? “Scream” has always had a finger on the pulse of the cultural anxieties around media effects, and this time, they’ve scraped the arguments that rage constantly through the internet mob for their villainous motives. In a world full of requals, you’ll be glad Ghostface picked up the knife one more time. 1:54. 3 stars. — *Katie Walsh*

‘SPIDER-MAN: NO WAY HOME’: Casting Tom Holland as Peter Parker was one of the sharper decisions to emerge from the Marvel Cinematic



Jack Quaid, from left, Melissa Barrera and David Arquette in “Scream.” **BROWNIE HARRIS/PARAMOUNT PICTURES**

Universe. Holland provides the glue and the webbing for the latest Spidey outing, “Spider-Man: No Way Home.” Director Jon Watts and screenwriters Chris McKenna and Erik Sommers deliver an extremely busy, generally entertaining venture into the MCU multiverse of alternate timelines, competing versions of the same character and swirling trippiness. If you caught the animated and extremely deft 2018 “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse,” you’ll get the idea. This film has little of that film’s visual invention but a good deal of its verbal wit. 2:28. 3 stars. — *Michael Phillips*

‘THE TRAGEDY OF MACBETH’: The early 17th-century potboiler “The Tragedy of Macbeth” is the shortest of Shakespeare’s tragedies. Director and adapter Joel Coen — working here without brother Ethan — took on this film version with his wife, Frances McDormand,

committed — fully, as if that needed saying — to Lady Macbeth, opposite Denzel Washington as the ruthless warrior who lusts for the crown and goes blood simple in the process. Stripping “Macbeth” for parts, keeping the focus on the main narrative lines of political assassination and what Macbeth himself refers to as “supernatural soliciting,” Coen turns out to be ideally suited to a straight-ahead, let’s-get-on-with-it rendition. Shot in tight, boxy 4:3 and black and white, this 105-minute trot through a charismatic power couple’s rise and fall is ripping stuff — largely because it dwells in a shadow realm where theatrical methods meet cinematic expression. In the best way, we never quite know where we are here. 1:45. 3 ½ stars. — *Michael Phillips*

RATINGS: The movies listed are rated according to the following key: 4 stars, excellent; 3 stars, good; 2 stars, fair; 1 star, poor.

CELEBRITIES

White inspires donation challenge

From news services

The late Betty White was a tireless lifetime advocate for animals, from caring for those without homes to launching her own weekly TV show, “The Pet Set,” dedicated to her celebrity friends and their pets.

Her most far-reaching contribution, though, may be yet to come: On Monday, fans of White are poised to donate to animal welfare charities and shelters as part of what has been dubbed the #BettyWhiteChallenge. And animal welfare nonprofits are gearing up to capitalize on the viral tribute to the star of “The Golden Girls” and “Hot in Cleveland” on what would have been her 100th birthday.

“I’ve had many conversations with Betty about animal welfare, and I know she’s looking down from heaven and really smiling,” said Robin Ganzert, who leads American Humane, an animal welfare organization that White was involved with for more than 60 years.

“She’ll be smiling on her birthday,” she said. “And she’ll be smiling about the lives she’s changed.”

It isn’t exactly clear who started the #BettyWhiteChallenge on social media shortly after White’s death on Dec. 31. However it began, the idea — to donate \$5 to a local animal rescue organization in White’s name on her Jan. 17 birthday — quickly took off and drew support from celebrities like actors Mark Hamill and George Takei on Twitter.

During the decades in which White was involved with American Humane, she made fundraising appeals and served on its board and as a presenter and judge on its televised show featuring “hero” dogs. During tapings of “The Pet Set” in the early



Betty White, who died Dec. 31, was a tireless advocate for animals for her entire life. **CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION 2015**

1970s, Ganzert said, White would have American Humane representatives on set to ensure that animals were safe. In 2012, the nonprofit honored her with its highest award, the National Humanitarian Medal.

North Shore Animal League America, a no-kill animal rescue and adoption organization, has received a donation from the Hallmark Channel in honor of White, part of a tribute that also includes a “Golden Girls” marathon and her Hallmark movie “The Lost Valentine” on Monday.

‘Nevermind’ baby refiles lawsuit: The man who as a 4-month-old appeared nude on the 1991 cover of Nirvana’s album “Nevermind” on Thursday filed a new version of his lawsuit alleging the image is child pornography.

Federal Judge Fernando M. Olguin had dismissed

Spencer Elden’s lawsuit on Jan. 4 after a missed deadline, but gave him permission to file an amended version.

The new complaint includes a declaration from the album’s graphic designer that Elden’s lawyers argue demonstrates that the band and Geffen Records deliberately sought to exploit the image for commercial gain.

The defendants named include surviving Nirvana members Dave Grohl and Krist Novoselic and the estate of Kurt Cobain.

Jan. 17 birthdays: Actor James Earl Jones is 91. TV host Maury Povich is 83. Comedian Steve Harvey is 65. Singer Susanna Hoffs is 63. Actor Jim Carrey is 60. Actor Naveen Andrews is 53. Musician Kid Rock is 51. Actor Zooey Deschanel is 42. Singer Ray J is 41. DJ Calvin Harris is 38. Actor Jonathan Keltz is 34. Actor Kelly Marie Tran is 33.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Long-term grudge earns penalty for ‘holding’

Dear Amy: I am 50 years old. When I was 15 my father had an affair and left. My mother and I struggled for several years.

When I was 17, he had a child with another woman. My father and his new family lived within 30 minutes of us, however, I rarely saw him.

At one point when my children were teens, he apologized for not being in their lives, with the excuse that he was also raising a child.

I have a better relationship with the local grocery store clerk than I do with my father and my half-sister.

About eight months ago, I wrote him a heartfelt letter letting him know how I have felt for the past 35 years about the entire situation: leaving his family, excluding me from his new family and not being around to see my kids grow up.

His response was “I am sorry you feel that way.”

My issue is that he still won’t take responsibility for what he did to peoples’ lives. His comment of, “I am sorry you feel that way” has me holding a bigger grudge now than before.

Any advice? — *Son Holding a Grudge*

Dear Holding: You have done everything you can to try to bring your father to the table. And now you are learning that the guy who abandoned his wife and son many years ago also lacks the capacity to own his actions, apologize and try to make things right for you or your kids.

When you think carefully about it — this all tracks.

Your father is sorry that

you feel this way, but he is not brave enough to inspire you to feel differently.

You are holding a grudge, and with every effort you make, you hold your grudge tighter, so I’m going to call a penalty on this play for “holding.”

Go back five yards. Loosen your grip, because this grudge, and the anger you feel, is one more way your father is hurting you. Let it go now, and you will experience true liberation. You deserved better than you got, and you are doing what good parents everywhere strive to do: You are giving your children better than you had. You win.

Dear Amy: My daughter “Samantha” has a lovely home. She and my son-in-law are wonderful people.

When I look at their family, I reflect, and I feel like I was a good mom.

I carry baggage from my own crazy family, and I’ve tried very hard not to let my own background guide my life.

I am driving myself nuts about this small situation that is actually huge — to me.

Samantha has a wall in her home with various family pictures arranged on it. I am not on this wall. There are pictures of other family members — some of whom she has said she does not even like.

I feel left out and like I’m not good enough to be there. I realize that’s my own baggage, but I can’t help it.

I know if I say anything to anyone, I will be told that I’m overreacting.

How do I approach this? Should I? Am I overreacting?

— *Feeling Left Out in CA*

Dear Feeling Left Out: When looking at a relative’s photo collection, I think it is a universal impulse to look for yourself. When looking at your own child’s photo collection, this impulse is magnified many-fold.

Please, bring this up to your daughter. Don’t overwhelm her with your complicated emotional reaction, but ask her, “Hey, if I can find a nice photo of the two of us from your childhood — and let you pick out the frame — would you be willing to find some space on your wall for it?”

Dear Amy: Thank you for running a very poignant letter from “A Grateful Parent” about how her daughter’s friends showed up for her while the daughter was dying.

As a retired hospice nurse, I know those friends performed such meaningful acts by just sitting, napping or reading.

They helped to pass the time.

I will never forget a younger female patient that had a group of friends that came in every Sunday and buffed and puffed her, did her nails and hair, and laughed and chatted away.

For a few hours, the patient felt normal.

— *Hospice Nurse*

Dear Nurse: This is a beautiful way of abiding. I hope others are inspired by this example.

Copyright 2022 by Amy Dickinson

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



“Cheer” follows the competitive cheerleaders of Navarro College in Texas. **NETFLIX**

TV REVIEW

Netflix hit mixes high flyers, human drama in 2nd season

By Adam Graham
The Detroit News

Not everything is cheery in the world of “Cheer.” The Netflix docuseries about an elite Texas cheerleading squad was a streaming sensation in early 2020. The second season openly deals with the aftermath of that sudden flash of success — members of the Navarro College cheer team are now recording \$50-a-pop Cameo videos in between practices, and coach Monica Aldama is off taping “Dancing With the Stars” while the team is busy preparing for Nationals — and its fallout, most notably in the story of the first season’s breakout star, Jerry Harris.

Harris, whose beaming presence and positivity-fueled “mat talk” encouragements earned him a spot interviewing stars on the red carpet at the Oscars and audiences with Joe Biden and Oprah Winfrey, was the subject of an FBI investigation in the wake of the show and is awaiting trial on charges of child pornography and soliciting sex from minors.

“Cheer’s” second go-round addresses the

Jerry situation immediately, and then pauses at the midway point of the season to spend an entire episode on his case and to give voice to his accusers. It is a bold, necessary move from a first-rate series that has always been about more than what happens on the mat.

There’s still plenty of mat drama, and Navarro is deep in preparations for Nationals and headed for a showdown with rivals Trinity Valley Community College when COVID-19 hits and shuts down everything in its wake. For Navarro, it’s one more obstacle on their path to their 15th national championship; for “Cheer,” it’s another element of human intrigue in this compelling, compulsively watchable series.

Series creator Greg Whiteley — he directs the episodes as well, sometimes as a co-director with Chelsea Yarnell — shows the way “Cheer’s” real world success changes the playing field for its participants, including combustible team leader La’Darius Marshall, who acts out when coach Monica leaves her team to do “Dancing With the Stars.” Their

relationship illustrates the deep bond she has with her athletes, and the stability cheering provides in the team members’ often tumultuous personal lives.

There’s also a further emphasis on Trinity Valley, its coaching staff and its team members, the most intriguing of whom is DeVonte “Dee” Joseph, who is happy to do all the flips and tumbles required of him but outright refuses to smile while he does it, his inner form of wrestling with the fact that he’s on the cheer team in the first place.

It all builds up to the bandshell at Nationals as the cool waters of Daytona Beach await the winners. (The curious fact that Navarro and Trinity Valley are the only teams competing in their respective division, the Advanced Large Coed Junior College category, is a debate for another time.) “Cheer” depicts the turmoil of high competition and the double-edged sword of fame. And it lays out what makes the world of cheerleading so addictive, both for its participants and for viewers.

Where to watch: Netflix

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): You may feel vulnerable to an authority figure today. Whether or not you succeed in getting your way with them, you could benefit from reflecting on messages you received about this type of dynamic when you were younger.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Conversations with the people around you could be unexpectedly intense today. You might discover that someone else’s beliefs are not what you thought they were! You may be secretly relieved to find this out. Regardless of how loyal you might feel to the past, you also need to live in the present.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Learning about money matters can be productive for you today, but the facts you discover may be an unpleasant surprise — at least at first. You could learn that an investment or other arrangement that you’re involved in isn’t working as well for you as you want. Reach out to an authority figure.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): You may have reached your limit in a close partnership. It might usually make sense to let the other person take the lead — that said, you could now feel like you finally have to assert yourself. Confronting could get you the support you need.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Insight about what motivates one of your habits could come to you at any moment. While the habit itself is probably fine, going about it in a rigid or compulsive way might alienate others who come in contact with or are affected by your routine. Remove some burdens.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The way that you’re perceived might surprise you. You may be confident that your method of doing things works well for you, but you could also have trouble noticing when you’ve crossed the line into throwing your weight around with others. Someone close may give you a needed perspective.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Drama at home could engross you to the point it might surprise you that the outside world isn’t as caught up in it as you are. Whether you want control or someone else is pushing you, getting a different perspective may be helpful. Ask yourself how actions would be perceived in another context.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may not be satisfied with shallowness in your routine conversations today. While you might wonder how a little chat got so deep seemingly out of nowhere, opening up to another person could help you resolve a dilemma you’ve been chewing on.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An opportunity to contribute your resources toward a home or family situation in an idealistic way could arrive on your doorstep and look like it’s your big chance to be the change you want to see in the world right now. Be careful to give only what you can afford.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Currently, someone else could see things that you’d prefer to keep hidden. Of course, not everything you hide is necessarily bad! It might simply be that you have a softer side that you’re afraid will get hurt. Deepening your relationship with them would be worthwhile.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Going through your daily routine could be frustrating today, as tasks that seem like they should be straightforward may rub someone else’s sensitivities the wrong way. You might need to get your nose out of your to-do list and hear out the person who is offended. They may have a legitimate grievance.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Losing yourself in a friend group or community might work reasonably well for you at this time. You may find it a relief to let someone else be the one who makes tough decisions. Make sure you are handling this surrender in a way that’s fair!

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Jan. 17, 1950, the Great Brink’s Robbery took place as seven masked men held up a Brink’s garage in Boston, stealing \$1.2 million in cash and \$1.5 million in checks and money orders.

In 1966, the Simon & Garfunkel album “Sounds of Silence” was released by Columbia Records.

In 1977, convicted murderer Gary Gilmore, 36, was shot at Utah State Prison in the first U.S. execution in a decade.

In 1994, the 6.7 magnitude Northridge earthquake struck California, killing at least 60.

In 1995, more than 6,000 people were killed when an earthquake devastated the city of Kobe, Japan.

In 1997, a court in Ireland granted the first divorce in the country’s history.

In 2020, U.S. health officials announced that they would begin screening airline passengers from central China for the new coronavirus.

FROM OUR SISTER PUBLICATION

Teamwork real pride of Yanks

Yanks put Pods to sweep

DAILY NEWS HISTORY OF THE NEW YORK YANKEES Presented to DAVID OSBORNE

Relive Yankees History

Celebrate the history of New York's hometown team with a personalized newspaper book, featuring original Daily News coverage over franchise history.

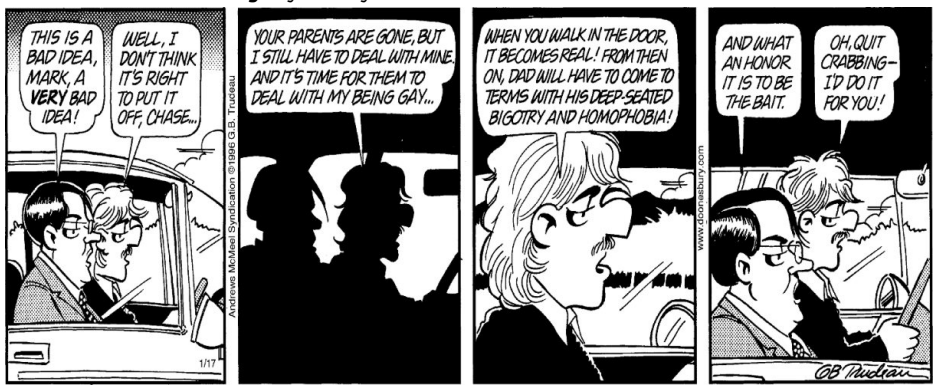
Hartford Courant
— STORE —

Shop now at
courant.com/yankeeshistory
or call (866) 545-3534

Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



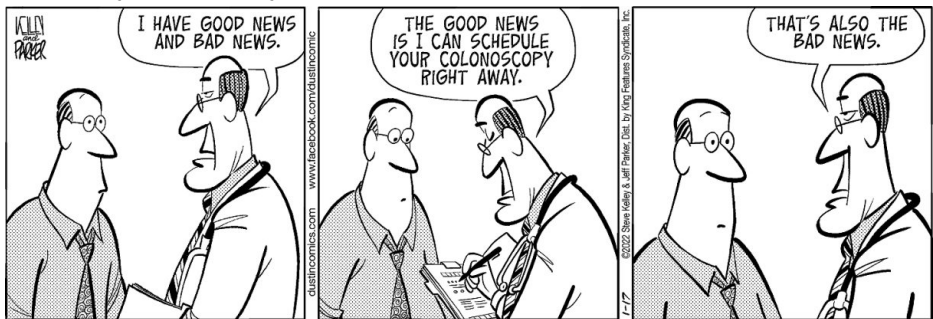
Garfield By Jim Davis



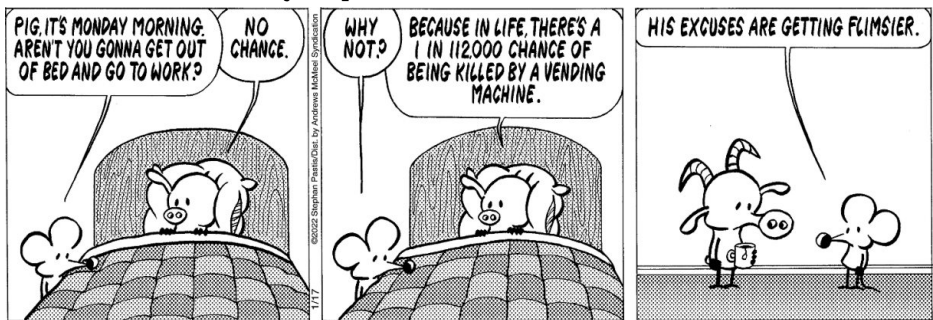
Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



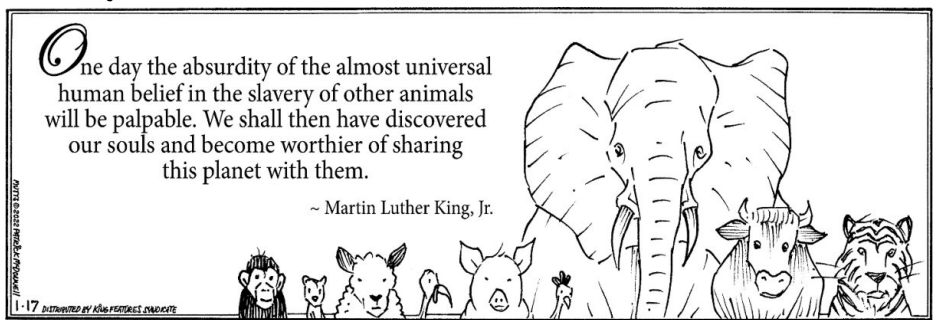
Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



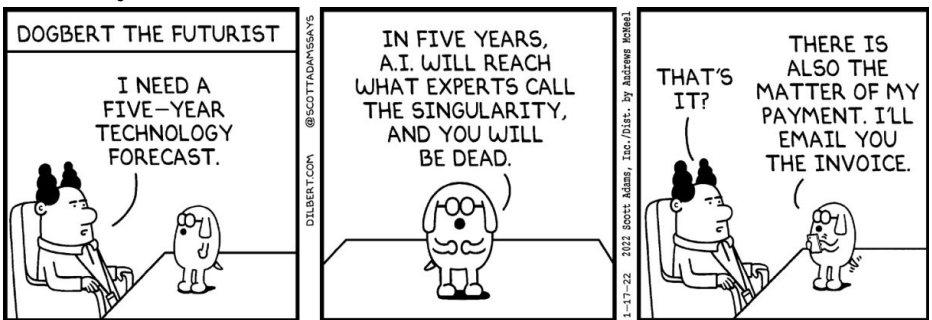
Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



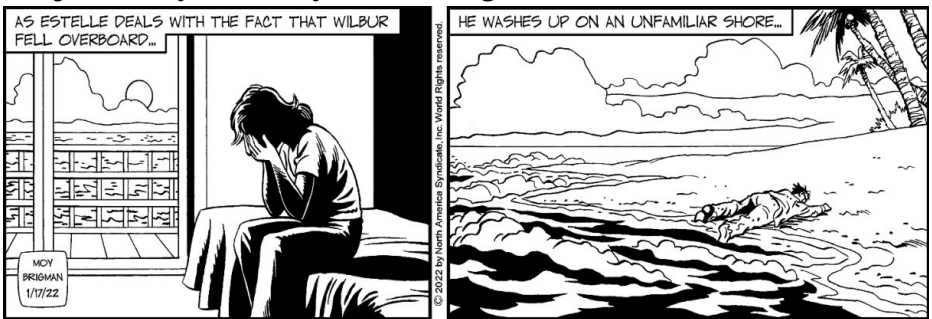
Dilbert By Scott Adams



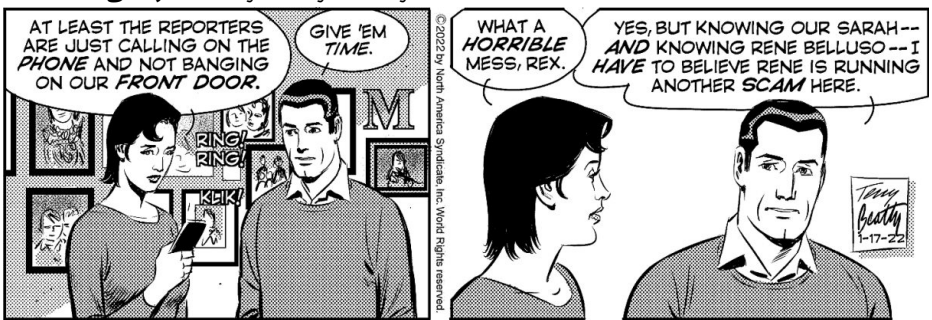
Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



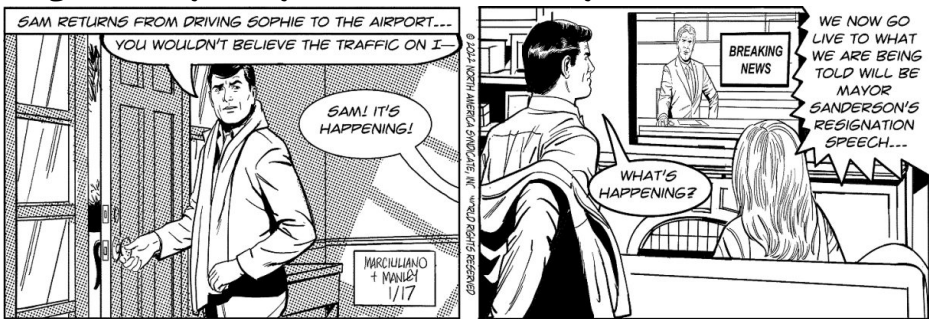
Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



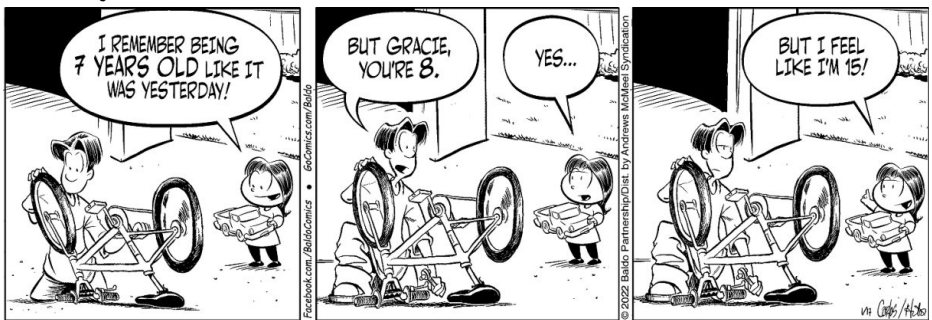
Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



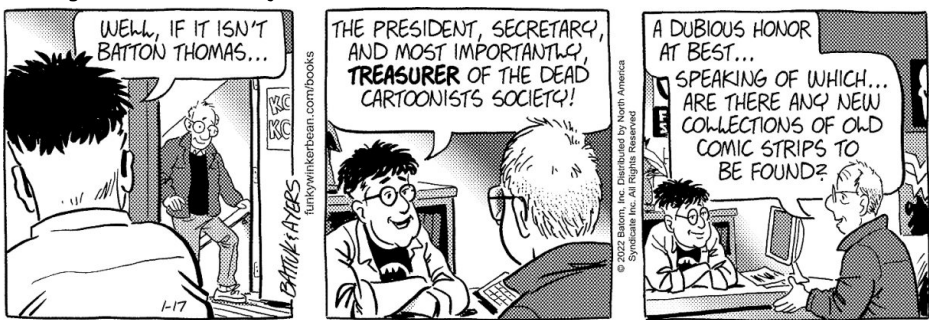
Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



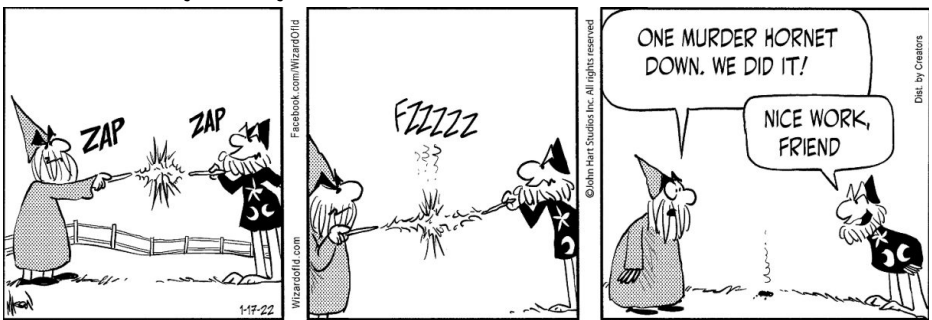
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



Lio By Mark Tatulli



Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



B.C. By Hart



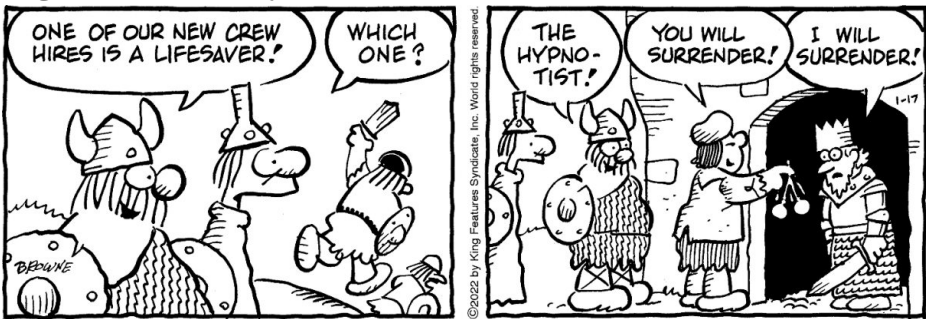
Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker



Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne



Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne



Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



Curtis By Ray Billingsley



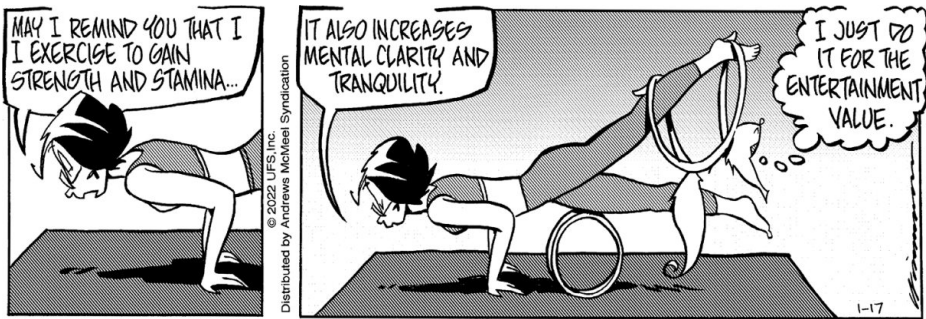
Pickles By Brian Crane



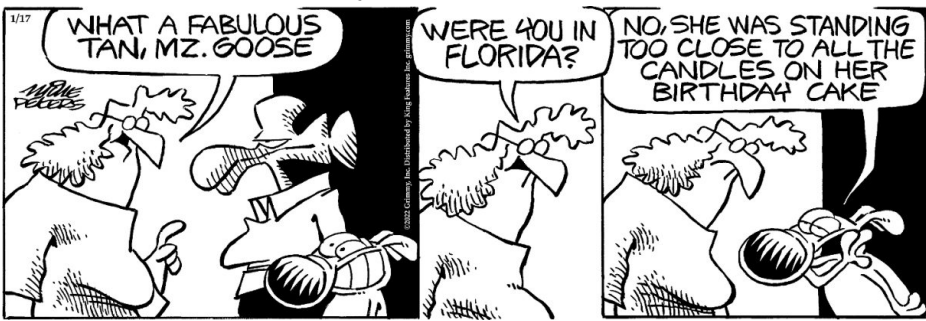
Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer



Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

1 Toon frames

5 Honking birds

10 U.S. state that hosted the 2002 Winter Olympics

14 Declare openly

15 Comparable to a beet

16 Prefix with physics

17 Like collectible coins

18 Coen Brothers' "Best Original" Oscar-winning output for " Fargo"

20 Roll with the punches

22 Egypt's Mubarak

23 Before, to a bard

24 Weather warning on your cellphone, e.g.

26 Lukewarm

28 Detroit labor gp.

29 Amtrak express

31 Add, as to a list

35 To's counterpart

36 " __ girl!": encouraging words

39 Informal name for the classic painting "Arrangement in Grey and Black No. 1"

42 Ships' records

43 Yalie

44 Like favorite car radio stations

45 Ibsen's " __ Gabler"

47 Actor Stephen

48 Siri counterpart

50 Sleight-of-hand swindle

56 Green expanse

57 Greek i's

59 Shipwreck site

60 Say "See you mañana," e.g. ... and a hint to each set of circles

63 Rice-like pasta

64 Small bills

65 Freeze over

66 Resign, with "down"

67 Senator's helper

68 Mississippi quartet

69 Stun with a zapper

6 Abstain from

7 There's one in "beleive"

8 Reel from a bang on the head

9 Biblical garden

10 Strike caller

11 Mind readers

12 Gaming brand since 1972

13 Cut and collected in bales

19 After-dark period, in ads

21 Tease

25 Served, as soup

27 Delight to the max

30 Force, as to do something

31 Boring tool

32 Vietnamese soup

33 Stubborn in a porcine way

34 Southeast England county

35 Thu. follower

37 Golf driving aid

38 Part of MoMA

40 Stretchy things

41 Grad school grillings

46 Speaker's stand

47 Save

48 Big name in foil

49 "Madam Secretary" star Téa

51 Despises

52 Halloween sheet wearer

53 Big blood vessel

54 Lab rats' challenges

55 Say "I do" without the ado

58 Bruise, to a tot

61 Opposite of WNW

62 Some PCs

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38

39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69

By Catherine Cetta Tribune Content Agency 1/17/22

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH

♦ J 9
♥ A 9 5 3
♠ K Q J
♣ A J 10 7

WEST

♦ 4 3
♥ K 8 2
♠ 8 5
♣ K Q 9 8 5 2

EAST

♦ 8 7 6 2
♥ J 7 6 4
♠ 10 9 7
♣ 4 3

SOUTH

♦ A K Q 10 5
♥ Q 10
♠ A 6 4 3 2
♣ 6

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	6 ♦
Pass	7 ♦		

Opening lead — king of clubs.

Famous hand

This deal occurred in the match between Italy and the United States in 1951. It is notable chiefly because both declarers misplayed the hand but made the maximum number of tricks anyway.

The U.S. team gained 750 points because its North-South pair bid seven diamonds while the Italians stopped in six diamonds at the other table. Both Wests led the king of clubs, and after taking the ace, both declarers cashed five diamonds and five spades, leaving South with only the Q-10 of hearts.

On the last spade, West — who had been reduced to the K-8 of hearts and queen of clubs — had to discard before dummy, which held the A-9 of hearts and jack of clubs.

West was squeezed, so both declarers finished with all the tricks.

The squeeze succeeded only because West had the king of hearts and the club queen. But there was a much better

approach available that would have yielded 13 tricks even if East had held the heart king.

The proper line of play is to win the club lead and ruff a club. Declarer then cashes dummy's K-Q of trump and, after he sees that the missing trumps are divided 3-2, ruffs another club.

A spade to dummy's jack is followed by a third club ruff with South's last trump, the ace.

Declarer then crosses to the ace of hearts, draws East's last trump with the jack while discarding the queen of hearts from his hand, and scores the last four tricks with the A-K-Q-10 of spades.

Ruffing dummy's J-10-7 of clubs is better than relying solely on West to hold the heart king — a 50% chance. The suggested line of play will succeed whenever the trumps are divided 3-2, a 68% probability.

Tomorrow: Scintillating defense.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PYUSO

HISSU

SAYEIL

CAMPTI

I think we have another problem. Someone didn't order enough materials.

THE STAIRCASE WASN'T GOING TO BE FINISHED ON SCHEDULE BECAUSE OF THE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: GABBY STOOD WETTER INFANT
Answer: When the grizzly returned empty handed, he was the — "BEAR" OF BAD NEWS

TODAY'S SUDOKU

4	5							
2		4					3	
	3		5			9		
6								
8	1		3			4	7	
				7			6	
	5		8			7		
9			1	2			4	
					6		9	

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

8	4	2	9	1	3	7	5	6
5	6	3	7	4	8	2	9	1
9	7	1	5	2	6	4	3	8
6	2	4	8	3	7	5	1	9
3	1	9	6	5	4	8	2	7
7	5	8	2	9	1	3	6	4
2	8	5	4	6	9	1	7	3
4	3	6	1	7	2	9	8	5
1	9	7	3	8	5	6	4	2

STRESSBALL REST

WHATACUTIE EXPO

ARTCLASSES MAYO

ROTKNITS YACHT

MARESEATEXTOL

STARS SKIPSALE

SPECS ELLIPSES

CHIC LUTE

PASTORAL SINCE

EVE OILUP SNITS

LOCAL ANEW ENVY

ICONS BETAS EON

CANI PASSTHEMIC

ADDS ESTATESALE

NOSE WHATSSOSAD

ZIPPY

"DUPLICATION AGITATION"

Bill Griffith



BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.playjumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

		5		1		7		
						3		1
1	9	6			7			2
	5		8	3			7	
	1			7	5			9
2			7			6	4	3
4		3						
		9		2		8		

© 2017 The Mepharm Group. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All rights res

Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

2	1	8	3	7	6	9	5	
9	7	6	8	9	1	3	2	7
3	7	9	6	5	2	1	8	7
7	6	7	9	2	9	8	1	3
8	3	9	1	7	6	2	7	9
9	2	1	7	3	8	7	9	6
7	9	7	2	8	3	9	6	1
1	8	3	9	6	5	7	2	2
6	9	2	7	1	7	9	3	8

WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: lend a hand

267

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

E	V	R	E	S	T	I	M	U	L	A	T	E	G	K	X	S	E
L	H	S	M	F	T	D	U	A	V	P	D	M	M	R	U	V	V
H	A	M	A	I	U	R	G	E	T	E	B	A	O	P	O	T	L
E	N	H	A	N	C	E	E	H	T	O	O	S	P	R	S	I	I
R	F	L	I	A	H	T	D	N	S	G	N	O	P	O	A	H	F
U	A	T	N	F	P	A	A	Q	G	O	R	M	O	V	A	X	T
P	C	P	C	U	L	L	M	P	P	T	I	B	A	S	P	C	E
S	I	M	I	I	W	E	C	S	X	O	H	P	T	L	D	L	L
E	L	O	T	H	T	U	K	O	E	Q	P	E	E	X	L	O	E
T	I	R	E	K	B	Q	T	C	N	L	N	H	N	I	P	G	V
A	T	P	K	Y	F	C	A	S	A	S	B	E	R	V	A	K	A
R	A	C	C	L	A	I	M	U	I	B	O	H	D	R	R	N	T
A	T	Y	Y	O	U	B	D	E	O	S	T	L	U	U	R	E	E
L	E	P	R	O	M	O	T	E	N	H	S	O	E	X	E	D	O
I	E	T	A	I	C	E	R	P	P	A	C	A	I	D	E	D	W
H	E	A	R	T	E	N	O	N	D	N	B	Y	T	M	H	A	R
X	D	J	E	R	U	S	S	A	E	R	A	L	L	Y	C	L	X
E	M	P	A	L	C	O	M	F	O	R	T	P	E	B	R	G	Q

ABET	CLAP	GLADDEN	REASSURE
ACCLAIM	COMFORT	HAIL	SERVE
AIDED	CONSOLE	HASTEN	SOOTHE
APPLAUD	EASE	HEARTEN	SPONSOR
APPRECIATE	ELATE	HELP	SPUR
ASSIST	ELEVATE	IMPROVE	STIMULATE
AVAIL	ENABLE	INCITE	STRENGTHEN
BACK	ENCOURAGE	LIFT	SUPPORT
BOOST	ENHANCE	PROMOTE	THRILL
BUOY	EXHILARATE	PROMPT	URGE
CHEER	FACILITATE	RALLY	

BOGGLE

Boggle BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

EGNF
RLOI
MAOT
HEND

BOGGLE is a trademark of Hasbro, Inc.
© 2010 Hasbro, Inc. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All Rights Reserved.
www.bogglebrainbusters.com

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE

- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

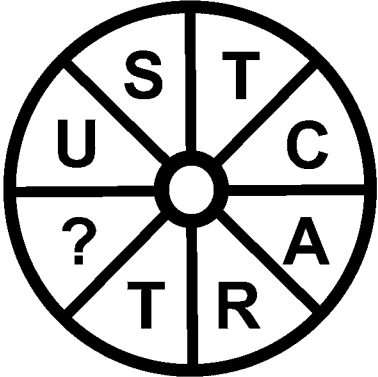
- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31-60 = Gamer
- 21-30 = Rookie
- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST SIX PARTS OF THE HUMAN BODY in the grid of letters.

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12				13						14		
15				16						17		
18			19					20	21			
	22				23	24	25					
				26					27			
					28							
	29	30	31		32			33	34			
	35			36					37	38		
39								40				41
42				43	44	45	46		47			
48				49					50			
51				52					53			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3/6/16

ACROSS

- 1 "Not ___ Stranger"; Sinatra movie
- 4 Actor Scott and his family
- 9 Donaldson or Waterston
- 12 Boy
- 13 ___ Winfrey
- 14 180" from WSW
- 15 Prior to
- 16 "The Phantom of the ___"
- 17 Objective
- 18 Tyler Blackburn's role on "Pretty Little Liars"
- 20 Famous drummer
- 22 Role on "Person of Interest"
- 26 "The ___ Tenenbaums"
- 27 Ping-Pong table divider
- 28 "___ tree falls in the forest..."
- 29 "___ World News Tonight with David Muir"
- 32 Proclamation of innocence
- 35 Actor on "The Goldbergs"
- 39 Wilma Flintstone's neighbor
- 40 "___ Out"; Kevin Costner film
- 42 Crawling bug
- 43 Recent Bradley Cooper/Emma Stone movie

A	S	A		B	A	I	O	S		S	A	M
L	A	D		O	P	R	A	H		E	N	E
E	R	E		O	P	E	R	A		A	I	M
C	A	L	E	B						R	I	N
				H	A	R	O	L	D	F	I	N
					R	O	Y	A	L		N	E
								I	F	A		
				A	B	C		N	O	T	M	E
				G	E	O	R	G	E	S	E	G
				B	E	T	T	Y		N	O	W
				A	N	T		A	L	O	H	A
				S	T	E		N	O	L	A	N
				E	S	S		S	P	E	N	D

3/13/16

©2016 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

3/6/16

DOWN

- 48 Sault ___ Marie
- 49 Actor Lloyd ___
- 50 Marina Squeriaci's role on "Chicago P.D."
- 51 Suffix for heir or count
- 52 Go on a shopping spree
- 53 Junior nav. rank
- 1 ___ Baldwin
- 2 ___ Michelle Gellar
- 3 Screenwriter ___ Rogers St. Johns
- 4 Yogi's pal
- 5 Game or other program downloaded to a cell phone
- 6 Anger
- 7 Rower's need
- 8 Puppeteer Lewis
- 9 Meeting conducted by a medium
- 10 "___ at the Roxbury"; movie for Will Ferrell
- 11 Short note
- 19 Goof up
- 21 Home for the Dick and Joanna Loudon on "Newhart"
- 23 Fibbing
- 24 Actor Willem
- 25 Apartments
- 29 "___ of S.H.I.E.L.D."
- 30 Davis and Midler
- 31 Rollaway bed
- 33 "3 ___ a Baby"; Tom Selleck film
- 34 Sense of self-esteem
- 36 "___ Hope"; soap opera of old
- 37 Movie for Hayden Christensen and Jessica Alba
- 38 Star of "Alice"
- 39 First, second, third or home
- 41 Potato varieties
- 44 Cut off
- 45 "Grand ___ Opry"
- 46 ___ Solo; role in "Star Wars" films

lend a hand

E	V	R	E	S	T	I	M	U	L	A	T	E	G	K	X	S	E
L	H	S	M	F	T	D	U	A	V	P	D	M	M	R	U	V	V
H	A	M	A	I	U	R	G	E	T	E	B	A	O	P	O	T	L
E	N	H	A	N	C	E	E	H	T	O	O	S	P	R	S	I	I
R	F	L	I	A	H	T	D	N	S	G	N	O	P	O	A	H	F
U	A	T	N	F	P	A	A	Q	G	O	R	M	O	V	A	X	T
P	C	P	C	U	L	L	M	P	P	T	I	B	A	S	P	C	E
S	I	M	I	I	W	E	C	S	X	O	H	P	T	L	D	L	L
E	L	O	T	H	T	U	K	O	E	Q	P	E	E	X	L	O	E
T	I	R	E	K	B	Q	T	C	N	L	N	H	N	I	P	G	V
A	T	P	K	Y	F	C	A	S	A	S	B	E	R	V	A	K	A
R	A	C	C	L	A	I	M	U	I	B	O	H	D	R	R	N	T
A	T	Y	Y	O	U	B	D	E	O	S	T	L	U	U	R	E	E
L	E	P	R	O	M	O	T	E	N	H	S	O	E	X	E	D	O
I	E	T	A	I	C	E	R	P	P	A	C	A	I	D	E	D	W
H	E	A	R	T	E	N	O	N	D	N	B	Y	T	M	H	A	R
X	D	J	E	R	U	S	S	A	E	R	A	L	L	Y	C	L	X
E	M	P	A	L	C	O	M	F	O	R	T	P	E	B	R	G	Q

		F			R	A	N								
C	A	F	E			O	P	P	R	E	S	S			
		R	O	M	P	E	D		P	W	H	O			
		G	E	A	R			S	W	O	L	L	E	N	
		O		L	O	W			H	I		Y	E	S	
S	T	E	E	P			R	I	N	K		T			
			R		O		A	P	T		H			B	
H	A	R	D	S	H	I	P			R	I	P	E		
		C	O	R	E			S	E	C	U	R	E	D	
		T	R	Y			R	E	D			B	E	T	S

POSTERITY

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

Coffee shop	Shoptalk	Enemy		Survey choice	Fishing gear	Name	Afresh	Piece of paper	Male offspring
				Suggest	Crush	1			
Won easily						Lashed	What person	2	
Stuff					Puffed up	3			
Pricey		Sad				Greeting	"I agree"		
	4	Trial's partner			Hockey venue	6		Put on the payroll	Strata
Tough time		Play the part		Like some wine	Well-put		Obstacle	Favorite	
						7	Ready to eat		
Center					Made safe				
Sample	8			9	Stop-sign color		Track action		

©2020 Knight Features. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency.

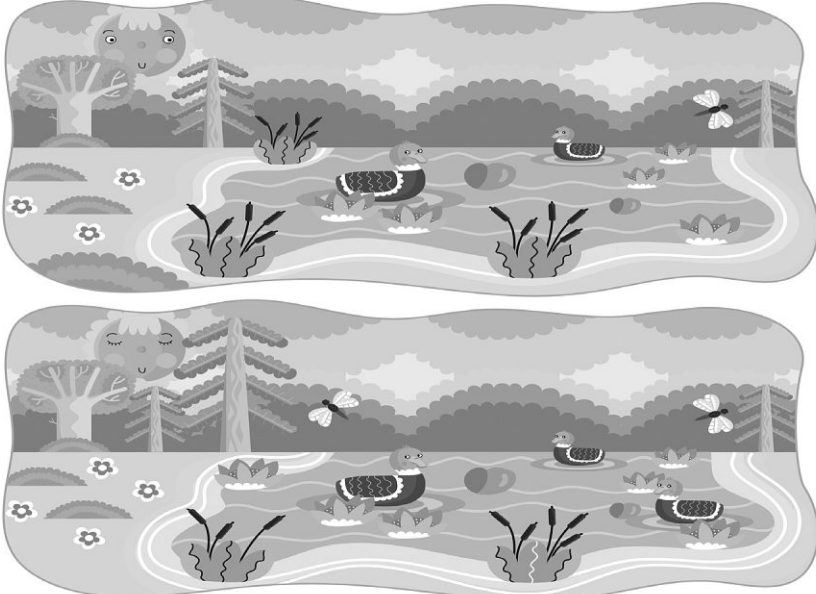
1/26/20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



FIND 1 DIFFERENCE



Hartford Courant

SPORTS

COURANT.COM / SPORTS

UConn Women's Basketball

Huskies look to turn spark into long-term success

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

There was something about how the No. 10 UConn women's basketball team played its last two games that just felt different. It didn't matter the competition, although to be clear, the Huskies were no doubt facing inferior opponents in Butler and Xavier.

Unlike how it played earlier in the season — even with reigning national player of the year Paige Bueckers on the floor — UConn dictated how the game would

be played from the get-go. That started primarily on the defensive end, but the Huskies went about their business with an intention, energy and urgency that coach Geno Auriemma had so desperately wanted to see with big nonconference games looming the next few weeks.

So what's made the difference for the Huskies, and what more is Auriemma looking for from his squad?

There are obvious changes to point to: The Huskies just played three games in seven days, and

after Monday will have played four in nine. UConn's scheduling has been a bit wonky at times this season — no stretch was tougher than when the team had just one game against Louisville during exam week, then had four canceled contests due to COVID-19 issues after the holidays.

Getting into a game flow has helped players like Caroline Ducharme, the Huskies' surprising freshman, find a rhythm and grow game to game. More broadly, it's allowed players to solidify their roles for a squad missing its floor

captain and incorporating multiple new faces.

"I think just being in the flow of having games has really helped us," Ducharme said Saturday. "We went for a stretch where we didn't play for a while. So we had a lot of time in practice, a lot of time to fine-tune things and look at specifics on the offensive end and defensive end. So just being able to actually have games and being able to see it I think has really helped us."

It's also no coincidence that the Huskies' heightened intensity has

coincided with the return of Nika Mühl, and specifically her insertion into the starting lineup.

Mühl's edge, toughness and physicality now set the tone on defense from the start of the game. Auriemma said that with Mühl back and other players getting healthier, the Huskies can extend their defense and apply more three-quarter or full-court pressure. Her facilitating also has been a strong point, especially in transition, and she boasts five assists

Turn to UConn, Page 4

Patriots



The Buffalo Bills defense has Patriots quarterback Mac Jones on the run in a wild-card playoff game Saturday night in Orchard Park, N.Y. Jones had a rough night, throwing two interceptions in the 47-17 loss. JOSHUA BESSEX/AP

Belichick is the greatest coach but Bills proved he isn't infallible

By Christopher L. Gasper
Boston Globe

On a frigid, single-digit Saturday night in Orchard Park, N.Y., Bill Belichick was all bundled up like an arctic explorer, but still got undressed by Josh Allen and the Buffalo Bills.

Belichick's first foray into the playoffs as Patriots coach without Tom Brady ended up as the NFL emperor has no clothes.

On Sunday morning, the coach offered praise for the entire organization.

"I have a lot of respect for the players and coaches and just in general the team, the support people. This group has worked extremely hard and they've given their best. We've all given our best, and it obviously didn't work out for us the way we wanted it to last night," he said.

Belichick also said he would begin the process of turning the page to next season with player evaluations and other assessments.

"I think we need to, and will, go back and take a longer view of everything," he said.

That is obvious. His defense was exposed in an embarrassing 47-17 defeat, one even more lopsided than the final score. Buffalo scored touchdowns on all seven of its real drives and rang up the most points ever against a Belichick-coached team. Only a pair of botched extra points prevented the biggest loss of Belichick's tenure, topping the 31-0 beatdown the Patriots suffered at Buffalo to open the 2003 season.

Statistically, this might not have been the



Josh Allen and the Buffalo Bills froze out the Patriots and coach Bill Belichick on Saturday night amid single-digit temperatures in Orchard Park, N.Y. NANCY LANE/MEDIANEWS GROUP/BOSTON HERALD

worst loss of the Belichick era, but it sure felt like it considering the context — a playoff game and the rubber match with their new AFC East overlords.

Belichick lost more than a game. He was stripped of his aura of omnipotence by a team he used to own when You Know Who was

here at quarterback. Only the most stubborn Belichick true-believers are clinging to the coach-above-all myth, denying reality by still claiming Belichick was the more important piece of the dynasty. Saturday night was proof we can dispense with that Foxborough fiction.

If you foolishly thought the Patriots could beat Buffalo (raises hand), the reason was your belief in Belichick and his ability to conjure victory out of the ether. But genius has its limits. It can't tip the scales when confronted with an elite quarterback playing at the top of his game, at least when Belichick doesn't have an elite QB of his own to fight fire with fire.

Belichick is still searching for a playoff win in New England without Brady. That's across four seasons (2000, 2008, 2020 and 2021). He's the greatest coach of all time. He's worth at least two wins a season with his mere presence on the sideline. He did a tremendous job revamping his team on the fly to return to the playoffs after a one-year absence. Give him his due for what remains a successful season.

But now that someone else has the game-changing quarterback, he's looking up at the competition instead of looking down from Mount Olympus.

"They clearly were the better-coached team. They played better, and they certainly deserved to win," said Belichick on Sunday morning.

He added, "Last night's game was the least competitive game that we played [all] year."

Turn to Patriots, Page 6

ANALYSIS

Djokovic's legal loss a loss for Australian Open, fans

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press

Novak Djokovic's loss in a court of law is also a loss for the Australian Open, a loss for tennis fans and a loss for the sport as a whole.

Setting aside, for a moment, everything that led to his deportation from Australia on Sunday, who wouldn't want to see the player who dominated men's Grand Slam tennis in 2021 competing for what would be a historic title to begin 2022?

Unaccustomed to defeats on a big stage, especially lately, he could have pursued his 10th trophy at Melbourne Park, which would break his record, and his 21st overall from all major championships, which would break the men's mark he shares with Rafael Nadal (who is in Australia) and Roger Federer (who is not, following knee surgery).

Instead, when play began in Australia on Monday (Sunday in the U.S.), 2009 winner Nadal, as it turns out, was the only past Australian Open champ in the 128-player men's field. And 150th-ranked Salvatore Caruso, a 29-year-old from Italy who is on a four-match losing streak in Grand Slam main-draw play and failed to get through qualifying in Melbourne, will be on the line in the bracket where No. 1 Djokovic stood until Sunday's Federal Court decision.

Less than 18 hours before the start of the tournament, a three-judge panel unanimously upheld a government minister's right to cancel Djokovic's visa, ending his last-ditch effort to be able to play and bringing a close to what the ATP Tour rightly called "a deeply regrettable series of events."

This was how Nadal put it on Saturday, when everyone still was awaiting a resolution: "Honestly, I'm a little bit tired of the situation."

And to think: This 11-day saga could have been avoided if Djokovic got the COVID-19 vaccine — like more than 95% of all Top 100 men and women in their tours' rankings — or, like at least two other players who didn't have the shots and stayed away, accepted that he wasn't allowed to enter the Australian Open. Vaccination was a requirement for anyone at the tournament: players, their

Turn to Djokovic, Page 4

Did you know?

The three biggest causes of fatalities on the road are alcohol, speeding and lack of seat belt use.

riscassi-davis.com

131 Oak Street • Hartford, Connecticut
860.522.1196 • 800.344.5297



RISCASSI & DAVIS
P.C.
Protecting the rights of the
injured for more than 60 years



SPORTS

UP NEXT

UConn MBB: Butler (XL), Tuesday, 7 p.m.; at Butler, Thursday, 9 p.m.; Georgetown (Gampel), Jan. 25, 8:30 p.m.
UConn WBB: at Oregon, Monday, 5 p.m.; Seton Hall (Gampel), Friday, 7 p.m.; at St. John's, Sunday, 1 p.m.
Celtics: Pelicans, Monday, 12:30 p.m.; Hornets, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; Trail Blazers, Friday, 7:30 p.m.
Knicks: Hornets, Monday, 1 p.m.; Timberwolves, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.; Pelicans, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Nets: at Cavaliers, Monday, 3 p.m.; at Wizards, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; at Spurs, Friday, 8:30 p.m.
UConn hockey: New Hampshire, Friday, 7 p.m.; New Hampshire, Saturday, 4 p.m.; Merrimack, Jan. 25, 7 p.m.
Bruins: Hurricanes, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Capitals, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Jets, Saturday, 3 p.m.
Rangers: Maple Leafs, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; at Hurricanes, Friday, 7 p.m.; Coyotes, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Wolf Pack: Toronto, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; at Hershey, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Hershey, Sunday, 3 p.m.

TV/RADIO

BASKETBALL
11 a.m.: Life Christian (Fla.) at Wilbraham & Monson Academy (Mass.). (Live) ESPN
Noon: Purdue at Illinois. (Live) FOX
Noon: Women's College La Salle at St. Joseph's. (Live) CBSSN
12:30 p.m.: Pelicans at Celtics. (Live) NBCSB
1 p.m.: Milton (Ga.) vs. Camden (N.J.). (Live) ESPN
1 p.m.: Hornets at Knicks. (Live) NBA MSG
2 p.m.: George Mason at George Washington. (Live) CBSSN
2:30 p.m.: Notre Dame at Howard. (Live) FOX
3 p.m.: Nets at Cavaliers. (Live) YES
3 p.m.: IMG Academy (Fla.) vs. Montverde (Fla.). (Live) ESPN
3:30 p.m.: Bulls at Grizzlies. (Live) TNT
4 p.m.: La Salle at St. Joseph's. (Live) CBSSN
5 p.m.: Women's College UConn at Oregon. (Live) ESPN2
5 p.m.: Link Prep (Mo.) vs. Prolific Prep (Calif.). (Live) ESPN
6 p.m.: Bucks at Hawks. (Live) TNT
7 p.m.: Women's College Georgia at Missouri. (Live) SEC
7 p.m.: Delaware at Northeastern. (Live) CBSSN
8 p.m.: Wyoming at Nevada. (Live) FS1
10:30 p.m.: Jazz at Lakers. (Live) NBA

FOOTBALL
8:15 p.m.: Cardinals at Rams. (Live) ABC ESPN

HOCKEY
4 p.m.: BioSteel All-American Game. (Live) NHL
7:30 p.m.: ECHL All-Star Classic. (Live) NHL

TENNIS
7 a.m.: 2022 Australian Open Tennis First Round. (Taped) TENNIS
2 p.m.: 2022 Australian Open Tennis First Round. (Taped) ESPN2
11:30 p.m.: 2022 Australian Open Tennis First Round. (Live) ESPN2

BIG EAST MEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 14 Villanova hits 12 3s in romp over Butler

Associated Press

Collin Gillespie hit five 3-pointers and scored 17 points, and Justin Moore scored 15 points to lead No. 14 Villanova to its sixth straight win, 82-42 over Butler on Sunday afternoon in Philadelphia. “We’re starting to be able to do this for 40 minutes,” Wildcats coach Jay Wright said. That’s bad news for the rest of the Big East. The Wildcats (13-4, 6-1) are rolling again since dropping their conference opener and never let Butler get comfortable at the Wells Fargo Center. With a noon start, the Wildcats

did Philly sports fans a favor and used a 13-2 run to decide this one by halftime — enough time to flip over to catch the opening kick-off of the Eagles’ playoff game at Tampa Bay. The bar areas on the concourse were swarmed with fans who decided to watch play-off football on big screens over the Wildcats stretching their lead to 25 only minutes into the second half. Butler (9-7, 2-3) had given Wright’s Wildcats fits more than any other team in the Big East since 2016. The Bulldogs’ five wins over that span were the most of any team against Villanova over that span.

Six was never in play. The Wildcats made their first six baskets and shot a whopping 71% in the first half. Gillespie and Eric Dixon each made all four of their shots and Villanova was 5 of 7 on 3s. The Wildcats finished with 12 3-pointers. Chuck Harris led Butler with 15 points. Butler has to put this one behind quickly. They travel to Hartford to play UConn on Tuesday. “We didn’t expect that from ourselves,” Butler coach LaVall Jordan said. “We didn’t compete well enough from the jump. We’ll

pick ourselves up off the mat and get ready against Connecticut.” **St. John’s 88, Georgetown 69:** Julian Champagne scored 25 points to power St. John’s past Georgetown in New York. Champagne sank 9 of 20 shots and added six rebounds for the Red Storm (10-5, 2-2 Big East). Posh Alexander pitched in with 17 points, seven assists, six rebounds and he matched his career best with six steals. Kaiden Rice led the Hoyas (6-8, 0-3) with 19 points on 7-of-22 shooting. Freshman Aminu Mohammed added 13 points and 12 rebounds for his sixth double-double.

KNICKS

Reddish opens up about trade from Hawks

By Stefan Bondy
New York Daily News

ATLANTA — Cam Reddish was the can’t-miss star out of high school in Pennsylvania. He was ranked third in that 2018 class, behind only Zion Williamson and RJ Barrett. Reddish’s trajectory was future NBA All-Star, and it was easy to envision for a perimeter shooter with a 7-foot-1 wingspan. But his situation went sideways, which brought Reddish, unexpectedly, to the Knicks. “Not much,” Reddish said when asked what he’s accomplished as a pro. “It’s been a roller coaster. I’ve learned a lot.” Reddish, the 10th overall pick in the 2019 draft, was acquired Friday by the Knicks for Kevin Knox and a future first-round pick, capping a 2 ½-year stint with the Hawks that he had hoped would end sooner. Now facing uncertainty on a Knicks roster teeming with players at his position, Reddish hasn’t lost the swagger of the blue-chip prospect. “I feel like I can be a star. I feel like I could be a legit star,” he said. “That’s what I’m working to be. It’s pretty simple.” So what happened in Atlanta? For the first time, Reddish acknowledged Saturday he requested a trade before the season. There were too many wing players and not enough minutes. Bogdan Bogdanovic, DeAndre Hunter and Kevin Huerter are all young and ahead of Reddish in the pecking order. There wasn’t a clear path to grow into a vision of stardom. “What went into [the trade request]? It was more just like a little more opportunity,” Reddish said. “No love lost at all with the Hawks. It’s just the business. That’s something I had to learn myself and to this second still learning how it works. I just think for myself professionally it was just time to make a move for me.” It also meant a separation from Hawks coach Nate McMillan, who often used Paul George as the prototypical comparison to Reddish.



Cam Reddish requested a trade from the Hawks before the season, and last week his wish was granted as he was dealt to the Knicks. **HAKIM WRIGHT SR./AP**

“Same type of body, same type of game, the ability to score, be a two-way player,” McMillan said. “Those are things I always talked to him about. He has a ton of potential. This year, he talked to us during the summer that he wanted to go somewhere else. It was tough on him, to come in, and he was a professional. He was a pro. He didn’t do anything through the media. ... We knew he probably wasn’t going to end the season with us.” The deal to the Knicks, however, caught Reddish by surprise. In a matter of two days, Reddish flew to New York, took a physical and returned to Atlanta as a visiting player Monday — albeit injured and inactive — in the Knicks’ victory over the Hawks. “Honestly, I didn’t know what was going on. I literally woke up to the news of the trade. So it was just kind of,” Reddish snapped his fingers, “I’ve got to get to New

York. It was overwhelming a little bit. There’s a lot going on. I think I’m here for a reason so I’m just going to take advantage of the opportunity and have fun with it.” The opportunity with the Knicks is also difficult to plot. The Knicks, like the Hawks, have a rotation of other wings who eat up minutes, with Barrett, Alec Burks, Evan Fournier and Quentin Grimes divvying up the time. Coach Tom Thibodeau said Reddish will have to earn his chances, which was another way of saying that the Pennsylvania product won’t be gifted minutes because he cost the Knicks a first-round pick. “You have a finite amount of minutes available in each game — 240 minutes,” Thibodeau said when asked how he will fit Reddish into the rotation. “So you have to play whomever gives you the best chance to win. And nobody’s development is more important than someone else’s development.

Everyone’s development is important. So winning has to come first. The team comes first. You play who gives you the best chance to win.” Reddish seemed on board. “I’m not expecting to come in playing 35-40 minutes whenever the next game is, but I’ve just got to come in and work my tail off,” he said. “The rest takes care of itself.” The first step is actually getting on the court. Reddish is sidelined with an ankle sprain but remains hopeful for a quick recovery. The Knicks have four consecutive home games upcoming — starting with the Hornets on Tuesday afternoon — and perhaps Reddish will make his Garden debut this month with the home squad. “It’s actually feeling a lot better,” Reddish said of his ankle. “I’m not sure how long I’ll definitely be out. But it’s definitely on the up and up. It’s in a good spot.”

CELTICS

Celtics rolling as they prepare for home matinee against Pelicans

By Doug Alden
Associated Press

BOSTON — The Celtics are at .500 (22-22) just past the midpoint of the season, but they host the New Orleans Pelicans on Monday afternoon (12:30 tipoff) having won four of their past five games. The latest win was a narrow one Saturday night against a 27-14 Chicago Bulls team that has been the surprise of the league in the first half of the season. Robert Williams hit a pair of free throws with 9.7 seconds left and the Celtics scored the final eight points to edge the Bulls, 114-112. Williams, who tied it at 112 with two free throws with 31 seconds to go, finished with 14 points and 13 rebounds. Boston rallied after trailing 112-106 with 1:57 to play. “It’s a moment everybody in this league wants and waits for. I’m glad I made them,” said Williams, who was shooting 66% from the free-throw line entering the game. “I’m glad my teammates had my back. It boosted my confidence.” Jayson Tatum led the Celtics with 23 points and 12 rebounds. Jaylen Brown scored 19 points and Dennis Schroder had 16 points and eight assists for Boston. The Celtics, who lost 111-99 in Philadelphia on Friday night, appear to be turning the corner



The Celtics’ Jayson Tatum drives past the Bulls’ Coby White during Saturday night’s victory in Boston. **MICHAEL DWYER/AP**

after a disappointing start to the season. Coach Ime Udoka said the team seems to have learned from mistakes that cost Boston earlier. “We’ve been in a lot of tough

games like this, and the guys have been growing from it,” Udoka said. “To the credit of our guys, they got down a little bit and never hung their heads, contin-

ued to fight and dug their way back out of it.” Nikola Vucevic had 27 points for Chicago and rookie Ayo Dosunmu scored a career-high

21 points and added 10 assists. DeMar DeRozan, who missed a shot at the buzzer that could have tied it, scored 23. Chicago was coming off a 138-96 loss at home to Golden State on Friday night and lost for the fourth time in five games. The Bulls couldn’t hold off the Celtics down the stretch despite numerous mistakes by Boston, which led 54-49 at halftime and 84-83 after a tight third quarter. “They went out and did a great job — not a great job losing a game, but we competed,” Chicago coach Billy Donovan said. “It’s always how you respond. I thought today we did a much better job controlling our response.” The Celtics faltered down the stretch with several mistakes, including a bad pass by Tatum, a traveling call on Brown and an offensive foul committed by Tatum. But Chicago couldn’t quite close out the Celtics, who stayed in range when Brown hit from the corner to pull the Celtics within 112-110 with 1:06 left. Malcolm Hill missed a shot for Chicago and Williams drew a foul at the other end, tying it with a pair of free throws with 31 seconds left to play. DeRozan missed from the lane with 11 seconds left and Boston got the rebound. Williams drew a foul on Vucevic and went to the line with 9.7 seconds left, sinking both to put the Celtics back up.

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Brooklyn	27	15	.643	—
Philadelphia	25	17	.595	2
Toronto	21	19	.525	5
New York	22	21	.512	5½
Boston	22	22	.500	6

SOUTHEAST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Miami	27	16	.628	—
Charlotte	23	20	.535	4
Washington	22	21	.515	5
Atlanta	17	25	.405	9½
Orlando	18	26	.182	19½

CENTRAL				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Chicago	27	14	.659	—
Milwaukee	27	18	.600	2
Cleveland	26	18	.591	2½
Indiana	15	28	.349	13
Detroit	10	32	.238	17½

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Memphis	30	15	.667	—
Dallas	24	19	.558	5
San Antonio	16	27	.372	13
New Orleans	16	27	.372	13
Houston	13	32	.283	17

NORTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Utah	28	14	.667	—
Denver	27	19	.537	5½
Minnesota	20	22	.476	8
Portland	17	25	.405	11
Oklahoma City	14	28	.333	14

PACIFIC				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Phoenix	33	9	.786	—
Golden State	31	11	.738	2
L.A. Lakers	21	22	.488	12½
L.A. Clippers	21	23	.477	13
Sacramento	18	28	.391	17

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Phoenix 135, Detroit 108
Houston 118, Sacramento 112
Golden State at Minnesota, late
Utah at Denver, late

MONDAY'S GAMES
New Orleans at Boston, 12:30p.m.
Charlotte at New York, 1p.m.
Philadelphia at Washington, 2p.m.
Brooklyn at Cleveland, 3p.m.
Chicago at Memphis, 3:30p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 3:30p.m.
Milwaukee at Atlanta, 6p.m.
Portland at Orlando, 7p.m.
Toronto at Miami, 7:30p.m.
Oklahoma City at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
Phoenix at San Antonio, 8:30p.m.
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 10:30p.m.

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Minnesota at New York, 7:30p.m.
Detroit at Golden State, 10p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
Brooklyn at Washington, 7p.m.
Orlando at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
Charlotte at Boston, 7:30p.m.
Minnesota at Atlanta, 7:30p.m.
Portland at Miami, 7:30p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago, 8p.m.
Memphis at Milwaukee, 8p.m.
Oklahoma City at San Antonio, 8:30p.m.
Toronto at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
Houston at Utah, 9p.m.
Detroit at Sacramento, 10p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Denver, 10p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Lakers, 10:30p.m.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Toronto 103, Milwaukee 96
Portland 115, Washington 110
Brooklyn 120, New Orleans 105
New York 117, Atlanta 108
Philadelphia 109, Miami 98
San Antonio 101, L.A. Clippers 94
Cleveland 107, Oklahoma City 102
Boston 114, Chicago 112
Denver 133, L.A. Lakers 96
Dallas 108, Orlando 92

THREE-POINT FG PCT. LEADERS				
TEAM	G	3P	3PA	3P%
Chicago	41	479	1242	.386
Miami	43	584	1558	.375
Charlotte	43	609	1633	.373
Atlanta	42	520	1396	.372
Phoenix	41	483	1307	.370
Utah	42	632	1719	.368
Golden State	42	604	1673	.361
Milwaukee	45	644	1786	.361
New York	43	564	1565	.360
Protland	42	570	1597	.357
Philadelphia	42	473	1333	.355
San Antonio	42	472	1333	.354
L.A. Clippers	44	537	1519	.354
L.A. Lakers	43	523	1487	.352
Cleveland	44	526	1501	.350
Brooklyn	42	468	1338	.350
Denver	41	516	1485	.347
Sacramento	45	527	1523	.346
Houston	44	578	1685	.343
Toronto	40	477	1395	.342
Memphis	45	512	1501	.341
Minnesota	42	597	1754	.340
Boston	44	534	1575	.339
New Orleans	43	489	1447	.338
Dallas	43	526	1588	.331
Washington	43	437	1342	.326
Orlando	44	517	1601	.323
Indiana	43	496	1537	.323
Detroit	41	460	1470	.313
Oklahoma City	42	490	1568	.313

PLAYER				
TM	3P%	G	3P	3PA
P.J. Tucker	.473	37	53	112
Eric Gordon	.456	37	89	195
M. Muscala	.447	35	59	132
Ke. Johnson	.445	39	65	146
John Collins	.443	37	51	115
L. Kennard	.441	35	97	220
C. Johnson	.438	39	99	226
Bobby Portis	.432	36	70	162
T. Haliburton	.429	43	88	205
Mike Conley	.426	37	89	209
A. Wiggins	.425	38	85	200

ODDS

COLLEGE BASKETBALL			MONDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	
at Illinois	1½	Purdue	
George Mason	5½	at Geo. Wash.	
at Cornell	13	Columbia	
at Fla. Atlantic	3	Charlotte	
at Arizona State	20½	Utah	
JMU	5½	at Elon	
at Hofstra	8	Drexel	
at St. Joseph's (Pa)	8	La Salle	
Murray State	20½	at E. Illinois	
at Brown	2	Yale	
Indiana	8½	at Nebraska	
Belmont	12½	at SIU-Ed'sville	
Mercer	1½	at The Citadel	
Towson	13½	at Wm. & Mary	
Delaware	1	at Northeastern	
at Charleston (SC)	8½	NC Wilmington	
at Loyola Marymt	12	Portland	
Harvard	1	at Dartmouth	
Drake	1	at S. Illinois	
at UMKC	8	Denver	
at Nevada	2½	Wyoming	
at No. Arizona	5½	Idaho	
UNLV	5½	at San Jose St.	
at Southern Utah	11	Portland State	
Webster State	9½	at Idaho State	

NBA FAVORITE			MONDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Boston	off	(off)	New Orleans
at New York	off	(off)	Charlotte
at Washington	off	(off)	Philadelphia
at Cleveland	off	(off)	Brooklyn
at Memphis	off	(off)	Chicago
at L.A. Clippers	off	(off)	Indiana
at Atlanta	off	(off)	Milwaukee
at Orlando	off	(off)	Portland
at Miami	off	(off)	Toronto
at Dallas	off	(off)	Okl. City
at San Antonio	off	(off)	Phoenix
at LA Lakers	off	(off)	Utah

NHL FAVORITE			MONDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
Detroit	-137	at Buffalo	+114
at Colorado	-210	Minnesota	+172
Montreal	off	at Arizona	off
Los Angeles	-118	at San Jose	-102
Chicago	-114	at Seattle	-105
at NY Islanders	-184	Philadelphia	+152
at St. Louis	-126	Nashville	+105
at Vegas	off	Pittsburgh	off

NFL WILD CARD FAVORITE
at LA Rams 3½ (49½)
Arizona
For the latest odds, go to
FanDuel Sportsbook,
https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE										
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Florida	38	26	7	5	57	158	111			
Tampa Bay	40	26	9	5	57	135	113			
Toronto	36	24	9	3	51	123	93			
Boston	35	22	11	2	46	111	90			
Detroit	39	17	17	5	39	105	128			
Buffalo	37	11	20	6	28	96	130			
Ottawa	31	11	18	2	24	89	112			
Montreal	36	7	24	5	19	76	131			

METRO.										
GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA				
N.Y. Rangers	39	25	10	4	54	113	96			
Carolina	35	25	8	2	52	119	80			
Washington	39	21	9	9	51	129	108			
Pittsburgh	37	22	10	5	49	120	97			
Columbus	36	17	18	1	35	116	131			
Philadelphia	37	13	17	7	33	94	125			
New Jersey	37	14	18	5	33	107	129			
N.Y. Islanders	30	11	13	6	28	67	84			

WESTERN CONFERENCE										
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Colorado	35	24	8	3	51	152	112			
Nashville	39	24	12	3	51	121	107			
St. Louis	38	22	11	5	49	133	105			
Minnesota	34	22	10	2	46	129	105			
Winnipeg	34	17	12	5	39	102	99			
Dallas	35	18	15	2	38	99	106			
Chicago	36	15	18	5	35	93	123			
Arizona	38	8	24	4	20	77	138			

PACIFIC										
GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA				
Vegas	39	23	14	2	48	138	117			
Los Angeles	38	20	13	5	45	109	97			
Anaheim	41	19	15	7	45	120	120			
San Jose	39	20	17	2	42	106	119			
Calgary	34	17	11	6	40	105	87			
Edmonton	35	18	15	2	38	117	117			
Vancouver	38	17	18	3	37	98	110			
Seattle	37	10	23	4	24	99	136			

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Vancouver 4, Washington 2
Edmonton at Winnipeg, ppd

MONDAY'S GAMES
Detroit at Buffalo, 1p.m.
Minnesota at Colorado, 3p.m.
Los Angeles at San Jose, 4p.m.
Montreal at Arizona, 4p.m.
Chicago at Seattle, 5p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30p.m.
Nashville at St. Louis, 8p.m.
Pittsburgh at Vegas, 10p.m.
New Jersey at Toronto, ppd

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Buffalo at Ottawa, 7p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
Winnipeg at Washington, 7p.m.
Carolina at Boston, 8p.m.
Vancouver at Nashville, 8p.m.
Montreal at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
Florida at Calgary, 9p.m.
Tampa Bay at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m.
Columbus at N.Y. Islanders, ppd
Detroit at Philadelphia, ppd
Chicago at Edmonton, ppd

SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Carolina 4, Vancouver 1
Boston 4, Nashville 3, OT
Washington 2, N.Y. Islanders 0
Florida 9, Columbus 2
N.Y. Rangers 3, Philadelphia 2
Detroit 4, Buffalo 0
Tampa Bay 3, Dallas 1
Toronto 6, St. Louis 5
Chicago 3, Anaheim 0
Colorado 5, Arizona 0
Los Angeles 3, Seattle 1
Ottawa 6, Edmonton 4
Pittsburgh 2, San Jose 1, OT
New Jersey at Montreal, ppd
Ottawa at Winnipeg, ppd
Vegas at Calgary, ppd

TENNIS

110TH AUSTRALIAN OPEN
Early Monday at Melbourne Park, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, outdoors-hardcourt

MEN'S SINGLES, FIRST ROUND
Benjamin Bonzi d. Peter Gojowczyk, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

#31 Carlos Alcaraz d. Alejandro Tabilo, 6-2, 6-2, 6-3.

#7 Matteo Berrettini vs. Brandon Nakashima, late

#14 Denis Shapovalov vs. Laslo Djere, late

#16Cristian Garcin vs. Facundo Bagnis, late

#27 Gael Monfils vs. Federico Coria, late

#28 Karen Khachanov vs. Denis Kudla, late

#30Lloyd Harris vs. Aleksandar Vukic, late

Holger Rune vs. Soon Woo Kwon, late

Dusan Lajovic vs. Marton Fucsovics, late

Pedro Martinez vs. Federico Delbonis, late

Radu Albot vs. Yoshihito Nishioka, late

Stefan Kozlov vs. Jiri Vesely, late

WOMEN'S SINGLES, FIRST ROUND
Amanda Anisimova d. Arianne Hartono, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3.

#30 Camila Giorgi d. Anastasia Potapova, 6-4, 6-0.

#5 Maria Sakkari vs. Tatjana Maria, late

#13 Naomi Osaka vs. Maria Camila Osorio Serrano, late

#15Elena Svitolina vs. Fiona Ferro, late

#22 Belinda Bencic d. Kristina Mandenovic, 6-4, 6-3.

#32 Sara Sorribes Tormo vs. Kirsten Flipkens, late

Harmony Tan vs. Yulia Putintseva, late

Aliaksandra Sasnovich vs. Qinwen Zheng, late

Diane Perry vs. Marta Kostyuk, late

2022 AUSTRALIAN OPEN SEEDS WOMEN SINGLES
1. Ashleigh Barty (Australia)
2. Aryna Sabalenka (Belarus)
3. Garbine Mugjurica (Spain)
4. Barbora Krejickova (Czech Republic)
5. Maria Sakkari (Greece)
6. Anett Kontaveit (Estonia)
7. Iga Swiatek (Poland)
8. Paula Badosa (Spain)
9. Ons Jabeur (Tunisia)
10. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (Russia)
11. Sofia Kenin (U.S.)
12. Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan)
13. Naomi Osaka (Japan)
14. Simona Halep (Romania)
15. Elina Svitolina (Ukraine)
16. Angelique Kerber (Germany)
17. Emma Raducanu (Great Britain)
18. Coco Gauff (U.S.)
19. Elise Mertens (Belgium)
20. Petra Kvitova (Czech Republic)
21. Jessica Pegula (U.S.)
22. Belinda Bencic (Switzerland)
23. Leylah Anne Fernandez (Canada)
24. Victoria Azarenka (Belarus)
25. Daria Kasatkina (Russia)
26. Jelena Ostapenko (Latvia)
27. Danielle Collins (U.S.)
28. Veronika Kudermetova (Russia)
29. Tamara Zidansek (Slovenia)
30. Camila Giorgi (Italy)
31. Marketa Vondrousova (Czech Rep.)
32. Sara Sorribes Tormo (Spain)

MEN'S SINGLES
*-withdrawn
*-1. Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
2. Salvatore Caruso (Italy) / LL
3. Daniil Medvedev (Russia)
4. Alexander Zverev (Germany)
5. Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)
6. Andrey Rublev (Russia)
7. Rafael Nadal (Spain)
8. Matteo Berrettini (Italy)
9. Felix Auger-Aliassime (Canada)
10. Hubert Hurkacz (Poland)
11. Jannik Sinner (Italy)
12. Cameron Norrie (Great Britain)
13. Diego Schwartzman (Argentina)
14. Denis Shapovalov (Canada)
15. Roberto Bautista Agut (Spain)
16. Cristian Garin (Chile)
17. Gael Monfils (France)
18. Aslan Karatsev (Russia)
19. Pablo Carreno Busta (Spain)
20. Taylor Fritz (U.S.)
21. Nikoloz Basilashvili (Georgia)
22. John Isner (U.S.)
23. Reilly Opelka (U.S

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Monday: at Oregon, 5 p.m., ESPN2

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Tuesday: vs. Butler at XL Center, 7 p.m., FS1

UConn
COURANT.COM/SPORTS

R&D

COVERAGE PRESENTED BY

RisCASSI & DAVIS

P.C.

Protecting the rights of the injured for more than 60 years

UConn Women's Basketball

Huskies facing a similarly injury-riddled but potentially dangerous team in Oregon

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

In the five weeks since Paige Bueckers went down with a knee injury, the No. 10 UConn Huskies have gone through the growing pains of trying to find their identity without their reigning national player of the year, something that's largely come into focus with their standout play over their last two games against Butler and Xavier.

Putting it all together against two Big East teams with losing records is one thing. Now, UConn (9-3, 4-0 Big East) will face its next big test, a nonconference matchup at Oregon (8-5, 2-1 Pac-12), Monday evening.

Oregon, which was ranked as high as No. 9 earlier in the season, is currently unranked and has suffered losses to South Carolina, South Florida, UC Davis, Kansas State and Stanford. But don't let the record fool you. Like UConn, the Ducks have dealt with a slew of injuries and COVID-19 issues that have prevented them from seeing how good they can ultimately be.

Nyara Sabally, Te-Hina Paopao and Endyia Rogers have all played six games or fewer, and Sedona Prince was recently out two games with a bout of COVID-19. Coach Kelly Graves said Thursday that with so many absences, he's been pleased with how Sydney Parrish, Maddie Scherr and Ahlise Hurst have stepped up.

Saturday was the first day that Sabally, Paopao, Rogers and Prince all played together, and the results spoke for themselves: The Ducks erased a 17-point deficit and took down No. 7 Arizona in overtime at home.

Graves said last week that the Ducks were mostly focused on preparing for the Arizona game ("[that] game's more important, because that's a conference opponent. They're still a top 10 team."). Nonetheless, Monday will be "huge" for his Ducks.

"It's one that everybody has circled right from the start," Graves said. "It's kind of unfortunate that neither team will be at our best when that game occurs. They're injured a little bit, and we're just coming back from that. So it's not the game I think a lot of people anticipated when they first put it on the schedule. But nonetheless, it's still going to be a big game for us, for our fans."

"I don't know what to expect from them because I don't know who exactly is going to be 100%," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said Saturday afternoon. "But they're always good up there. They always shoot the ball great. They've got tremendous size. Obviously, they're one of the best teams in the country when they're 100%. And if they're 100% on Monday, it's going



Oregon guard Te-Hina Paopao drives up the court past Stanford guard Lacie Hull in a Jan. 7 game. Paopao is averaging 14.8 points for the Ducks, but has only played in four games because of a knee injury. **JOHN HEFTI/AP**

to be really a tough assignment for us. Heck, if they're 80% Monday it's going to be tough."

A win against UConn, no matter the Huskies' injury situation, would be massive for a Ducks program looking to re-insert itself into the national discussion.

"I think people have forgotten about us a little bit, and rightfully so," Graves said. "We haven't played particularly well, and we don't have that win-loss record that we would like. But at the same time, now this is an opportunity to kind of put ourselves back in the discussion."

Here's what else you need to know about the matchup:

Site: Matthew Knight Arena

Time: 5 p.m.

Series: UConn leads, 3-1

Last meeting: No. 3 Oregon 74, No. 4 UConn 56, Feb. 3, 2020, in Storrs.

TV: ESPN2 (Pam Ward, Stephanie White)

Radio: UConn IMG Sports Network on 97.9 ESPN (Bob Joyce, Debbie Fiske)

Oregon probable starters, sixth man

Te-Hina Paopao, G, 5-9, So.; Nyara Sabally, F, 6-5, R-Jr.; Sedona Prince, F, 6-7, R-Jr.; Endyia Rogers, G, 5-7, Jr.; Sydney Parrish, G, 6-2, So.; Maddie Scherr, G, 5-11, So.

UConn probable starters, sixth man

Christyn Williams, G, 5-11, Sr.; Olivia Nelson-Ododa, F, 6-5, Sr.;

Dorka Juhász, F, 6-5, Gr.; Nika Mühl, G, 5-10, So.; Caroline Ducharme, G, 6-2, Fr.; Aaliyah Edwards, F, 6-3, So.; Evina Westbrook, G, 6-0, R-Sr.

The matchup

UConn's offense: Ducharme continues to be the Huskies' most productive player since Bueckers went down (15.8 points per game), but perhaps more critically for this team is that the seniors have stepped up this past week. Williams sports a pair of 19-point outings, and Nelson-Ododa also hit double figures two games in a row. Westbrook, who came off the bench the last two games, is being asked to bring an offensive spark when she enters the game.

UConn's defense: The Huskies' strong suit this season, although they've upped their energy on that end of the floor to a whole new level the past two games. UConn is limiting teams to 58.1 points per game on 36.2% shooting. The Huskies will be asked to defend the 3 ball Monday much more than they've had to worry about in recent games.

Oregon's offense: Sabally has only played six games this season, but leads the team with 16.7 points per game, followed by Paopao at 14.8 in four games. Against the Wildcats, that duo combined for 44 points on 25 shots. In all, the Ducks are averaging 74.9 points per game on the season, shooting 45.4% from the field and 38.3% on 3s. Their most prolific 3-point shooters are Hurst (39.7%), Parrish (40.3%), Paopao (38.9%) and Rogers (35.7%).

Oregon's defense: The Ducks allow 61.5 points per game on 35.9% shooting. Teams like to shoot 3s against them, hitting 31.7%. All of their losses have come when they rebound worse than 52% of misses, but having Sabally and Prince back and healthy helps them control the glass better.

UConn keys: The Huskies must come out with the defensive intensity they've had the last two games; limit self-inflicted wounds on offense and hit 3s; push through any in-game adversity that pops up, and avoid fourth-quarter meltdowns, individually or as a team; dominate the glass.

Players to watch: Though this series was inked before she transferred to Storrs, this is Westbrook's de facto homecoming game. Will the Salem, Ore., native play with a little extra juice? The Huskies will take any offensive firepower and defensive contributions they can get from her.

About Oregon's coach: Kelly Graves, who is in his eighth season at the helm in Eugene, is a two-time Pac-12 coach of the year and boasted a 552-225 record as a Division I coach entering 2021-22, previously making stops at St. Mary's and Gonzaga. The Ducks have made two Elite Eights and a Final Four (in 2019) during his tenure.

Oregon's mascot: The Oregon Duck

Famous alumni: Nike co-founder Phil Knight, broadcast journalist Ann Curry, 2020 No. 1 WNBA draft pick Sabrina Ionescu

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com.

Djokovic

from Page 1

coaches and other entourage members, spectators, media members and everyone else on-site, too.

Djokovic sought, and initially was granted, a medical exemption, saying that he tested positive for COVID-19 in December. In the end, he was forced to leave Australia because he was seen as someone who could stir up anti-vaccine sentiments in a country, like many others, going through a surge of the omicron variant.

That's a big reason this drew so much attention.

Yes, it involved one of the most successful and famous athletes around, someone who came within one victory of the first calendar-year Grand Slam in men's tennis since 1969. And yes, it involved an intriguing "What will come next?" miniseries that included an eight-hour airport interrogation, a forced four-day stay in an immigration hotel, a handful of court hearings, two cancellations of a superstar's visa, one appeal that was successful and, ultimately, another that was denied.

But as polarizing a figure as Djokovic might be, rightly or wrongly, nothing is as polarizing among some folks these days as the coronavirus pandemic itself and the subject of those who won't get inoculated. It is something that the entire population of the world has a stake in.

What happens next with Djokovic will be fascinating to watch, because there are so many unknowns, at least in part because he hasn't taken questions or spoken to the media at all since his flight landed in Melbourne on Jan. 5.

After Sunday's verdict, he put out a statement saying he was "extremely disappointed" and that he "will now be taking some time to rest and recuperate, before making any further comments beyond this."

He added: "I am uncomfortable that the focus of the past weeks has been on me, and I hope that we can all now focus on the game and tournament I love."

Nobody knows when he will return to action. Nobody knows which future tournaments might have vaccine requirements. Nobody knows whether Djokovic will ever get vaccinated. Nobody knows how this whole episode might figure into his attempts to form a players' association that could be the closest thing to a union tennis has seen.

And nobody can know for sure, of course, what Djokovic's future in the sport will look like.

Seems safe to count on this, though: Djokovic, the ultimate fighter, never daunted by difficult opponents or match points or antagonistic crowds, will get back to winning when he can get back on a court with a racket in his hands.

UConn

from Page 1

each of the last two games.

Even with Ducharme's stellar play and Mühl doing her thing, those two can't do it alone. After the Creighton game, Auriemma sat down with his seniors and told them the team needed them to do more. They have answered the call.

Christyn Williams has gotten involved with defense, rebounding and assists, which in turn has helped her become a better scorer. Olivia Nelson-Ododa has dominated the paint when asked, while also showcasing what makes her such a critical defensive piece. Especially in the Butler game, Evina Westbrook showed the new dimension she can bring this team by coming off the bench.

"I think it's needed," Nelson-

Ododa said of Auriemma's challenge. "I think presented with a challenge like that, it forces us to really step up and evaluate what we've been doing. He's always been pushing us. He always will push us, and so we really accept that challenge."

There's no doubt that, with or without Bueckers, the Huskies will need their seniors to bring it for them to achieve their long-term goals.

"I think we were just faced with adversity and struggling to really face that head on," Nelson-Ododa said. "I think now that we accepted this is the way things are, we've been able to do well since then, especially that stretch in December."

Arguably the biggest change has been in how the Huskies are going about their business.

Auriemma has mentioned multiple times this season how

he sees teams nationwide going through the motions and playing without passion — a product of living through such exhausting times with the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic.

At times, it seemed like his team was under that same spell, and he didn't know how to get them out. More recently, though, there's been a shift in tone: that he won't let his kids become one of those teams.

"We've tried really hard the last two weeks to be different than that," Auriemma said. "And I'm really proud of them. They're responding. It makes all this stuff bearable."

"He's definitely made that a very big point of emphasis with how he sees players kind of playing with a dead face," Nelson-Ododa said. "For us, we don't want to look like that. We don't want to play like that. This isn't how UConn play-

ers have played in the past. So just kind of bringing the energy from the jump ... that's been a big point of how we need to play the rest of season."

Two games in January hardly have any bearing on how things will unfold in March and April. But the progress is there; now it's just a matter of building upon that growth.

Auriemma said he recently showed his team two charts: one where the graph line skyrockets before precipitously plummeting downward, over and over; the other where there's an overall steady incline, and when there are dips, they are small and quick, easy to recover from.

The former, he said, reflects this UConn team, both collectively and often as individuals, most of the season. One step forward could be followed by two steps back. The highs are high, but the lows? Way

too low to be successful when it counts.


The latter, then, is where he wants his team to be: not just trending in the right direction, but resilient in the face of adversity.

Monday's battle at Oregon is sure to provide plenty of that.

"If they're 100% on Monday, it's going to be really a tough assignment for us. Heck, if they're 80% Monday it's going to be tough," Auriemma said. "But it's supposed to be. ... I think [a game like that] toughens you up a little bit. And I think Monday will do that for us."

"We win, that's great, obviously. Huge confidence boost for our guys if we win. We don't win, it'll be like that South Carolina game. It depends how we don't win. So we'll know more Monday night than we do now."

Alexa Philippou can be reached at aphilippou@courant.com.



Safety Tip of the Day

Planning a snowmobile trip? Remember, it's impossible to gauge the thickness of ice on a lake or pond. Ice can easily give way under the weight of a snowmobile - so choose an alternate route instead.

R&D

RisCASSI & DAVIS

P.C.

Protecting the rights of the injured for more than 60 years

riscassi-davis.com

131 Oak Street • Hartford, Connecticut
860.522.1196 • 800.344.5297

NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Everton fires Benitez after 200 days



The terse 40 words from Everton announcing Rafa Benitez's firing Sunday lacked any expression of thanks, reflecting a challenging 200-day reign that saw fans uneasy at being led by a former managerial rival and never won over. The Spaniard failed to overcome his successful association with Liverpool, and his position became increasingly untenable as Everton sunk closer to the relegation zone. Everton had only one win in 13 league matches under Benitez, scoring 12 goals and conceding 27 in that time, although key striker Dominic Calvert-Lewin has only just returned from four months out injured to play two matches. "We knew it wouldn't be easy, and that it was a big challenge, both emotionally and in terms of sport," Benitez said on his website on Sunday. "My love for this city, for Merseyside and its people, made me accept this challenge, but it is only when you are inside that you realize the magnitude of the task." Benitez's name was chanted at Anfield within minutes after the announcement by Liverpool fans during their match against Brentford on Sunday afternoon.

No timetable for Durant's return



Kevin Durant has a sprained medial collateral ligament of his left knee, sidelining the NBA's leading scorer just as the Nets were poised to finally have a lengthy run with their Big Three. Durant was injured Saturday in a victory over the Pelicans when teammate Bruce Brown was knocked backward and fell into his knee. Durant had an MRI exam Sunday that confirmed the injury. The Nets said Durant was expected to return to full strength following a period of rehabilitation, but didn't provide a timetable. The Nets start a four-game road trip Monday in Cleveland to begin a stretch where it plays nine of 11 games on the road. That would have given the Nets plenty of games with Durant, James Harden and Kyrie Irving, who is ineligible to play at home because he is not vaccinated against the coronavirus, as mandated for professional athletes playing in New York City's venues. The three All-Stars have played together in just two games, with the Nets winning both. Durant is averaging 29.3 points. The Nets are a half-game behind the Bulls for the best record in the Eastern Conference.

'Come where he is always welcome'

Serbia's president called on Novak Djokovic to return to his native country on Sunday hours after the top-ranked tennis player lost his court battle to play at the Australian Open and was deported. Djokovic's final destination was not immediately clear. He left Australia after saying he was "disappointed" with losing his appeal against deportation and adding that he needs "some time to rest and to recuperate" after the 11-day saga. A masked Djokovic was photographed in an Melbourne airport lounge with two government officials in black uniforms. He left on an Emirates flight to Dubai, the same transit point he used when he flew to Australia on Jan. 6 after departing from Marbella, Spain. Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic accused Australian authorities of "harassing" Djokovic and called the court ruling "a farce." He said he spoke to Djokovic on Sunday. "We can't wait to see him in Serbia, to return to his country, to come where he is always welcome," Vucic said. "They think they humiliated Djokovic with this, the best player in the world, by the ten-day harassment, they humiliated themselves and Djokovic can return to his country with his head high up and look everyone in the eye."

—Associated Press



Novak Djokovic, shown on February 12 at the Australian Open, was deported for being unvaccinated. WILLIAM WEST/AFP

TENNIS AUSTRALIAN OPEN

No defense

Djokovic deported, so new champion will be crowned

By Rod McGuirk
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Novak Djokovic was deported from Australia on Sunday after losing a bid to stay in the country to defend his Australian Open title despite not being vaccinated against COVID-19.

A masked Djokovic was photographed in a Melbourne airport lounge with two government officials in black uniforms before he left for Dubai. It's not clear where he will go from there. Among the possibilities are Spain, Monaco or his native Serbia, where he has an almost iconic status and would likely receive a hero's welcome.

The No. 1-ranked tennis star has spent the past 10 days at the center of a saga over his vaccination status that has polarized opinion worldwide and struck a chord in Australia, where coronavirus cases are surging. The 34-year-old said he was "extremely disappointed" by a court's decision Sunday that led to his deportation. But he added that he respected the ruling and would cooperate with authorities.

The saga began when Djokovic was granted an exemption to strict vaccination rules by two medical panels and Tennis Australia in order to play in the Australian Open. That exemption, based on evidence that he recently recovered from COVID-19, apparently allowed him to receive a visa to enter

Australia. But upon arrival, border officials said the exemption was not valid and moved to deport him.

The ensuing back-and-forth raised questions of whether Djokovic was unfairly given special treatment or unfairly singled out because of his celebrity status and saw many complain that the drawn-out battle at the very least made Australia look bad.

A court initially ruled on procedural grounds that Djokovic could stay, but Australian Immigration Minister Alex Hawke, who has wide powers, later decided to deport him. In addition to not being inoculated against the coronavirus, Djokovic is a vocal vaccine skeptic, and the government said his presence could stir up anti-vaccine sentiments. Three Federal Court judges unanimously upheld the immigration minister's decision.

Djokovic said he was "uncomfortable" the focus had been on him since his visa was first canceled on Jan. 6.

"I hope that we can all now focus on the game and tournament I love," he said. "I will now be taking some time to rest and to recuperate, before making any further comments beyond this."

The decision dashes Djokovic's hopes of winning a record 21st Grand Slam title. He is currently tied with rivals Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal for the most Grand Slam singles trophies in men's tennis.

A deportation order could also ban him from Australia for three years — keeping the player from the tournament he has won a record nine times in the coming years.

The show must go on

The Australian Open started Monday without Djokovic and, finally, the focus was on forehands and backhands instead of his fight to avoid deportation because he isn't vaccinated against COVID-19.

Fifth-seeded Maria Sakkari started the program on the main court at Melbourne Park with a 6-4, 7-6 (2) win over Tatjana Maria, with defending champion Naomi Osaka due next in Rod Laver Arena.

In two early results on Day 1 of the first major tennis tournament of 2022, Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Belinda Bencic beat Kristina Mladenovic 6-4, 6-3, and 15th-seeded Elina Svitolina got past Fiona Ferro 6-1, 7-6 (4).

Later Monday, Rafael Nadal was set to renew his bid for a men's-record 21st Grand Slam singles title with a first-round match against Marcos Giron of the U.S. Nadal is tied with Djokovic and Roger Federer with 20 major trophies.

Nadal won the Australian Open in 2009 and is the only past champion in the men's bracket after Djokovic's late withdrawal Sunday because he was forced to fly out of the country when a court upheld the cancellation of his visa. Federer is skipping the tournament while recovering from knee surgery.

Djokovic had been scheduled to play Monday night's last match in Laver, following No. 1-ranked woman Ash Barty's contest, but instead the 34-year-old Serb was on a flight that landed in Dubai.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Patriots, QB Jones go out with a thud

By Jonah Bronstein
Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — After gaining so much ground during Mac Jones' rookie season, the Patriots faltered at the finish.

Throttled 47-17 by the Bills in a wild-card playoff game on Saturday night, the loss showed how much progress the Patriots still need to make to close the gap on their AFC East rivals.

"Losing is terrible," Jones said. "None of us wanted to do that tonight. But there's nothing we can do about it now. There's a lot to look forward to and positive and learn from."

Jones and the Patriots made strides turning around their season following a 2-4 start, putting together a seven-game win streak to make the playoffs for the first time in two seasons since Tom Brady left New England for Tampa Bay.

But their progress stalled after a 14-10 win at Buffalo in Week 13 put them atop the division standings. The Patriots struggled coming out of their bye week, losing three of four, before suffering their worst postseason defeat since a 46-10 loss to the 1985 Chicago Bears.

The loss was the most lopsided in the playoffs during Bill Belichick's tenure, which began in 2000, and second-worst overall after Buffalo opened the 2003 season with a 31-0 victory.

Suddenly, the tables have begun turning on a proud Patriots franchise which won 17 division titles and six Super Bowls under Belichick, and was 35-5 against Buffalo from 2000 to 2019. New England has now dropped four of the last five meetings with Buffalo, which has staked its claim to the division by winning two straight titles.

The Bills dominated the Patriots in this one, much like they were once dominated by New England.

Buffalo became the NFL's first team to score touchdowns on each of its seven possessions not ending with a kneedown. And the 47 points scored were the most against a Belichick-coached Patriots team.

"Shoot, every drive we couldn't get a stop was frustrating," New England linebacker Matthew Judon said. "It wasn't only one drive. It wasn't only one play. It wasn't one single player. It was everything. It was the whole game."

The struggles carried over from the final weeks of the season.

"If I could, I would've done everything to try to get it turned around," defensive captain Devin McCourty said. "Going from a team that was 2-4, just fighting, trying to get back to being the team that was atop the AFC at one point. You have to execute at a high level once that happens. And we didn't, for whatever reasons. We'll have a lot of time to think about that."

Jones was the first rookie quarterback to start a playoff game for the Patriots. He finished 24 of 38 passing for 232 yards with two touchdowns, and was intercepted twice while taking two sacks.

"We didn't have a chance to win the game, and it starts with me," Jones said. "Just getting momentum early, and not putting ourselves in that position."

The Patriots fell to 4-7 this season when failing to score first and 2-7 when going scoreless in the first quarter.

"Embarrassing," was how McCourty characterized the effort from the Patriots defense. "We really shouldn't perform like that."

Whatever momentum the the Patriots' offense generated was snuffed out by turnovers. Jones was intercepted by Micah Hyde on a deep pass to Nelson Agholor in the end zone on New England's first possession. And he had a tipped pass picked off by Levi Wallace on the opening drive of the second half.

"I can make a better throw," Jones said. "Our goal was not to turn the ball over. And it happened. That's just a part of the game, I guess. But it's something I can learn from."

Jones vowed that he and the Patriots will come back better next season.

"I always related it back to being a pilot," he said. "If you are a pilot and you have only flown so many times, when you have hundreds of flight hours, it's just an everyday thing for you. For me, obviously I was a rookie, and I played like that sometimes. And I shouldn't have. I can play better."



Bills' Matt Milano, left, shoves Patriots quarterback Mac Jones after a pass during the third quarter of Saturday's wild-card game at Highmark Stadium in Buffalo, New York. TIMOTHY T. LUDWIG/GETTY

SPORTS

COMMENTARY

MLB’s refusal to discuss service time is unsettling

By Jason Mastrodonato
Boston Herald

If Mookie Betts would’ve hit free agency one year earlier, the Red Sox would’ve found themselves in quite the pickle. They had just won a World Series in 2018, when Betts had a 30-30 season with a .346 average and won the Gold Glove in right field. He would’ve been entering 2019 with one year remaining of team control and the Red Sox would’ve had little choice but to lock up their superstar for the long haul.

They’re certainly not going to trade the American League MVP shortly after a duck boat parade.

Why are we doing this exercise and cutting Betts’ service time clock by one year? Because MLB finally produced an offer to the MLBPA last week, marking the first time the two sides talked about the core economics during the lockout. And according to multiple reports, most notably ESPN and The Athletic, MLB’s proposal included a lot of minor changes, but the owners are refusing to adapt in regards to the years it takes young players to reach free agency for the first time.

It’s an important issue for them, with The Athletic reporting the players “haven’t shown a willingness to drop those requests,” despite the league’s refusal to negotiate.

Why would MLB want to change it? They have it easy when it comes to service time.

The first three-plus seasons of a player’s major league career are spent making the league minimum salary or close to it, since the players have no power. The team then has control for an additional three years with salaries determined by arbitration, which is based on comparing their statistics to those of similar players in the past.

By the time most players reach free agency after six-plus seasons, they’ve often exited their prime years or already spent a few of them playing for less than market value.

One could argue this actually hurts the teams, who then have to commit long-term contracts to top players in their late-20s that extend into their late-30s.

Rookie contracts in the NFL last just four years, in the NHL just three years (or less, depending on age) and in the NBA just two years (with team options for two more years).

Here’s what MLB is reportedly working on with regards to service time: a system that would award teams in draft pick compensation if they promote prospects to the majors at the beginning of the season and if that player wins rookie of the year, or finishes in the top-three of MVP or Cy Young voting in the next three seasons.



Daniel Nava played parts of five seasons with the Red Sox, never making more than \$1.85 million, before he was waived as a 32-year-old in 2015. He bounced around for a bit, but never signed a lucrative deal before retiring. **CHARLES KRUPA/AP**

It sounds great at first, given teams often keep their best prospects in the minors as long as possible to manipulate their service time; if they call up a player in June instead of in April, they’ll get an extra year of team control.

But the new system would have holes.

Look at Betts, for example. Would the Red Sox have called him up in the middle of the 2014 season if they could’ve waited until 2015, then let him start the year on the Opening Day roster, finish top-three in MVP voting the very next year and been awarded a first-round draft pick?

Of course not. Betts would’ve almost certainly never seen the field in 2014. And what good is that doing for baseball?

But it also hurts the average players who make little money in their prime, then are easily replaced by younger players who aren’t much worse and can be paid minimum salary for years, starting the cycle all over again.

There are several Red Sox players who had solid careers but never got paid because of service time issues. Brandon Workman comes to mind, as he put up one of the best seasons by any MLB reliever in 2019, but wasn’t set to hit free agency for another year. The Sox traded him for Nick Pivetta and Connor Seabold and watched him burn out in Philadelphia just before free agency. He signed for pennies with the Cubs the following year and was eventually released.

Daniel Nava is another one who comes to mind. He had parts of five seasons with the Sox, never making more than \$1.85 million, before he was waived as a 32-year-old in 2015. He bounced around for a bit, but never signed a lucrative deal before retiring.

Cutting one year of service time off team control could lead to a lot of interesting scenarios.

It could force teams to make decisions on star young players one year sooner, perhaps driving more players to stay with the team they were developed with throughout their career, a connective part of the sport that is nearing extinction.

It could give the average ballplayer a chance to sign a multiyear contract one year earlier.

It could spruce up free agency with younger players reaching the pool sooner, and give teams more flexibility on the back end of contracts.

And it might help save baseball’s middle class, which is being squeezed out by teams who want to stockpile young players, run them into the ground until they cost money/suffer career-altering injuries and then replace them with new ones.

It’s too bad MLB doesn’t want to discuss it.

ANALYSIS

Ravens’ Hortiz a strong candidate for Giants’ GM job

By Tom Rock
Newsday

NEW YORK — If the Giants are looking for a general manager with vision, they can do a lot worse than to hire someone who hails from the Ravens’ famous “20/ 20 Club.” On Saturday, they interviewed a candidate with such credentials.

Joe Hortiz, 46, the Ravens’ director of player personnel, was the seventh potential general manager to speak virtually with Giants ownership regarding the week-old vacancy and one of the most compelling. He has worked for the same team for nearly a quarter century, rising within the organization from a personnel assistant in 1998 to one of the top executives in the organization.

Although Hortiz is regarded by many to be among the keenest evaluators in the league, his 20/20 Club pedigree has nothing to do with his eyesight. It stems from his inclusion in a group of young, eager front office workers who have been groomed under former general manager Ozzie Newsome and current general manager Eric DeCosta. The term comes from them being hired in their 20s for meager salaries (\$20,000 per year). DeCosta himself began in



Baltimore Ravens director of player personnel Joe Hortiz, right, with GM Eric DeCosta. Hortiz interviewed Saturday for the New York Giants’ GM position. **KARL MERTON FERRON/BALTIMORE SUN**

such fashion with the Ravens in 1996.

During Hortiz’s tenure in Baltimore, the Ravens have been one of the most stable and consistent teams in the league, winning two Super Bowls (including one against the Giants) and making the postseason 13 times in the past 22 years.

Although Hortiz is the only candidate whose current team did not make the playoffs this season, the Ravens’ ability to replenish their roster with very few lulls through the draft has long been

admired from afar by the Giants.

Hortiz was the Ravens’ director of college scouting from 2009-18, overseeing the draft process before he was promoted to his current title. During that span the Ravens drafted 14 Pro Bowl players. The Giants picked five during the same period.

The Giants have two more first-round interviews scheduled for Monday when they will meet with Adam Peters and Ran Carthon of the 49ers. After that they will begin in-person interviews with finalists for the job.



Bills wide receiver Gabriel Davis makes a catch against Patriots cornerback Joejuan Williams in the first half of Saturday night’s wild-card game in Orchard Park, N.Y. **ADRIAN KRAUS/AP**

Patriots

from Page 1

A more accommodating Belichick entertained more questions than on Saturday night, when the biggest Buffalo chill came from his news conference. Belichick offered few answers like he usually does immediately after a loss. At least this time it was warranted, because he has zero answers for Allen.

The once-mocked quarterback flayed the Patriots defense again with an epic performance. Allen had more touchdown passes (five) than incompletions (four), completing a career-high 84 percent (21 of 25 for 308 yards with no interceptions). He looked like an adult playing flag football against children.

Scoring was child’s play for Allen and Co. They converted every third down (6 for 6) until they knelt on the final snap and became the first team in NFL history to finish a game without a punt, a field goal attempt, or a turnover.

“Embarrassing,” said captain Devin McCourty.

Alarming, you can’t say Allen’s performance was an aberration. He eviscerated the Patriots at Gillette Stadium on Dec. 26, a 33-21 Buffalo win. The Bills didn’t punt on nine possessions in that game.

“We had a different game plan,” said the Patriots’ Matthew Judon. “We obviously know what our mistakes were and why we lost the last game. We tried to fix them.”

The deed to Belichick’s defense now belongs to Allen. In his last four contests against New England, the premium passer has thrown 13 touchdowns and zero interceptions, completed 67.4% of his passes and posted a 122.5 passer rating.

Allen also troubled the Patriots with his legs, running six times for 66 yards and four first downs, part of a Bills’ rushing attack that



Bills safety Micah Hyde intercepts a pass intended for Patriots wide receiver Nelson Agholor in the first half of Saturday night’s wild-card game in Orchard Park, N.Y. **JOSHUA BESSEX/AP**

averaged 6 yards per rush. He has rushed 28 times for 204 yards and 12 first downs in the last four matchups.

The best Patriots defense against Allen hasn’t come from Belichick’s brain, but Mother Nature. The gale-force winds in the teams’ first meeting Dec. 6 stunted him in a 14-10 New England win.

We lauded Belichick that night when he humiliated the Bills on their home turf by passing just three times. It’s safe to say the Bills and their long-suffering fans returned the favor.

Allen isn’t the Patriots’ piñata anymore. They’re his.

The best plan to combat Allen and the Bills is a familiar one: an upper-echelon quarterback. The emergence of promising QB Mac Jones was the most encouraging development this season.

The rush to prematurely anoint the rookie as an elite quarterback for tying his shoes was cloying and annoying. The backlash against anyone who wasn’t willing to join the Mac Mafia was swift. But the kid is legit, already among the top half of the league’s 32 starters.

Contrary to popular postgame depiction, Mac wasn’t with-

out fault in his playoff debut. He threw a pair of interceptions and presided over a delay-of-game penalty. While neither pick was egregious, they were costly.

If Allen had been picked off on throws identical to Jones’s, an entire region of football fans would’ve unleashed a chorus of “I-told-you-so’s” from Bangor to Block Island. Enough automatically absolving Jones of any mistakes — in this game or this season.

Still, the precocious passer is Belichick’s best hope. Belichick must pivot to arming Jones to match points with Allen because the canonized coach can no longer stop him. Belichick reached this same conclusion against Peyton Manning in the 2006 AFC title game.

His Hoodiness better hope that Jones evolves into a true franchise QB, not more of a middle-of-the-pack passer. Otherwise, his odds of winning a championship without Brady are slimmer than the Democratic majority in the Senate.

Belichick received the lion’s share of the credit for the Patriots’ unprecedented success over the years. But this ignominious play-off exit bears his name, too.

NFL WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS



Buccaneers' Joe Tryon-Shoyinka (9) celebrates after sacking Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts on Sunday in Tampa. MICHAEL REAVES/GETTY

NFC BUCCANEERS 31, EAGLES 15

Bay beatdown

Brady throws for 2 TDs, SB champions dominate Eagles

By Fred Goodall
Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — As the game clock expired, Tom Brady raised his arms in triumph along the sideline, whirled and tossed a football into the stands.

The Buccaneers and their jubilant 44-year-old quarterback took the first step on what they hope will be a journey back to the Super Bowl, dominating the Eagles 31-15 in a NFC wild-card playoff victory Sunday.

“It only gets tougher from here,” said the seven-time Super Bowl winner, who’s trying to help the Bucs become the first team to repeat as NFL champions since the Brady-led Patriots won back-to-back titles in the 2003 and 2004 seasons.

The Bucs (14-4) set the tempo from the start, with Brady leading a pair of long TD drives in the opening quarter and building the lead to 17-0 by halftime.

The three-time league MVP finished off

the Eagles with TD passes of 2 yards to Rob Gronkowski and 36 yards to Mike Evans, improving his dazzling playoff record to 35-11 in a record 46 postseason starts.

The Bucs defense did its part, too, intercepting Jalen Hurts twice in the Eagles quarterback’s playoff debut.

“We did some good things,” Brady said. “I think we’re just going to have to keep doing what we did today. Everyone’s got to touch it, make some explosive plays. Did a good job possessing it, the defense played great, so it was a great team win. Special teams played awesome — one of the best days we had on special teams all year.”

Brady completed 29 of 37 attempts without an interception while extending his postseason record for TD passes to 85.

But the Bucs had matters well in hand before the reigning Super Bowl MVP found Gronkowski wide open in the middle of the end zone to make it 24-0 midway through the third quarter.

The 6-foot-5 Evans punctuated his TD catch for a 31-0 lead with a front flip over the goal line.

Brady targeted Evans 10 times, completing nine of the throws for 117 yards. He’s 5-0

in postseason games since joining the Bucs in 2020 after 20 seasons with the Patriots.

“I don’t ever take it for granted,” Evans said of Brady’s leadership. “When he came to this team I knew he was going to change the franchise. He’s done that and then some. He makes sure we’re always ready to play. He makes sure that we know what we’re doing and he makes sure that we give it our all. That’s all you can ask for from a leader.”

The Eagles (9-9) scored on Boston Scott’s 34-yard run and Hurts’ 16-yard TD pass to Kenneth Gainwell both in the fourth quarter. A 2-point conversion trimmed their deficit to 16 with 4:45 remaining, but that was as close as it would get.

“We didn’t play good enough today, I didn’t play good enough today,” said Hurts, who was wearing a protective boot on his left foot after the game.

“This game does not define us, does not define who we are. We know all the different things that we’ve overcome. I know as a football team we’ll be back,” added Hurts, who at 23 is the youngest QB to start a playoff game for the Eagles. “We’ll be back. This is a feeling that will kind of simmer in our hearts, simmer for us all.”

NFC 49ERS 23, COWBOYS 17

Snap decision: 49ers hang on in a thriller

Questionable moves on the final play bury the Cowboys

By Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Deebo Samuel and the 49ers have started another playoff run after hanging on in a frantic wild-card finish against the Cowboys.

Dak Prescott and the Cowboys will have to keep waiting for that elusive deep trip in the postseason.

The 49ers’ versatile receiver ran 26 yards for a touchdown the play after an interception by Prescott, and they held on for a 23-17 victory over the Cowboys on Sunday.

The Cowboys had a final chance with 32 seconds remaining and were at the San Francisco 41 with 14 seconds to go when Prescott took off up the middle intending to slide and spike the ball for a final play.

But the Cowboys didn’t get the snap off from the 24 until after the clock hit 0:00. After a brief delay, referee Alex Kemp announced the game was over.

The 49ers overcame an interception by Jimmy Garoppolo when they led by 13 in the fourth quarter. Prescott ran for a touchdown to get within a score, and had a chance to drive the Cowboys to a go-ahead score. But the 49ers got a stop at midfield when Prescott’s desperation fourth-down pass was just out of the receiver Cedrick Wilson’s reach.

After a 14th penalty from the NFL’s most-penalized team in the regular season



49ers running back Elijah Mitchell (25) carries the ball against the Cowboys in Sunday’s wild-card game at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. RICHARD RODRIGUEZ/GETTY

that helped the 49ers run out most of the clock — and the frantic final seconds as Dallas tried for the win — the 49ers (11-7) clinched their first playoff victory at the Cowboys in a storied postseason rivalry.

Now they head to Green Bay for a divisional game, looking for another trip to the NFC championship game.

“It was like the whole day, it really was,” Garoppolo said of the final sequence. “It was a dogfight, hell of an atmosphere out here. I mean, the fans were nuts. It was everything we thought it was going to be. It was fun.”



The wait for the Cowboys (12-6) to get that far in the playoffs will reach at least 27 years after another first-game flameout in the postseason for Prescott, the second in

three trips over six seasons for the star quarterback. It was his first playoff game since signing a \$40-million-a-year contract in the offseason.

The 49ers lost star pass rusher Nick Bosa to a concussion just before halftime when he was crunched in the head and neck area by teammate D.J. Jones. But the 49ers kept enough pressure on Prescott, finishing with five sacks while holding the NFL’s No. 1 offense to 307 yards.

“Guys just stepping up big in big key situations, that’s really what it was all day,” Garoppolo said. “Early on, we got it rolling with the offense and the defense just throughout the entire day. We got some dogs on our defense, man. It’s fun.”

PREVIEW MONDAY’S GAME



Cardinals (11-6) at Rams (12-5)

Time/TV: 8:15 p.m., ABC, ESPN
Line: Rams by 3 ½
How the Cardinals can win: Let Kyler Murray create havoc with his ability to pull the ball down and run at any moment. Get a big game from the returning J.J. Watt, as protection breakdowns have led to several Matthew Stafford interceptions.
How the Rams can win: Avoid the turnovers. Work Cam Akers into the running game even more. Take advantage of the matchup problems tight end Tyler Higbee creates. Get up early on an opponent who has lost four of five coming into the postseason.
Pick: Before their setback against the 49ers, the Rams had won five in a row for the first time since 2018. Sean McVay has only lost to Arizona once. **Rams 31, Cardinals 23**

— Sam Farmer, Los Angeles Times

SUNDAY’S SUMMARIES

TAMPA BAY 31, PHILADELPHIA 15

Philadelphia

00015—15

Tampa Bay

143140—31

First Quarter

TB: Bernard 2run (Succop kick), 10:00.

TB: Vaughn 1run (Succop kick), :25.

Second Quarter

TB: FG Succop 34, 9:16.

Third Quarter

TB: Gronkowski 2pass from Brady (Succop kick), 7:38.

TB: Evans 36pass from Brady (Succop kick), 5:18.

Fourth Quarter

Phi: B.Scott 34run (Elliott kick), 12:08.

Phi: Gainwell 16pass from Hurts (De.Smith pass from Hurts), 4:45.

TEAM STATS

PHI

TB

First downs

14

23

Total net yards

339

349

Rushes-yards

17-95

31-106

Passing

244

243

Punt returns

5-35

4-13

Kickoff returns

3-57

1-18

Interceptions ret.

0-0

2-17

Comp-att-int

23-43-2

29-37-0

Sacked-yards lost

2-14

4-28

Punts

6-42.0

7-48.714

Fumbles-lost

3-1

0-0

Penalties-yards

4-45

4-35

Time of possession

26:57

33:03

RUSHING: Phi, Hurts 8-39, B.Scott 1-34, Sanders 7-16, Gainwell 1-6, TB, Vaughn 17-53, Bernard 13-44, Miller 1-9.

PASSING: Phi, Hurts 23-43-2-258, TB, Brady 29-37-0-271.

RECEIVING: Phi, Goedert 6-92, Gainwell 5-49, Smith 4-60, Sanders 3-12, Watkins 2-35, Howard 1-7, Reagar 1-2, B.Scott 1-1, TB, Evans 9-117, Bernard 5-39, Gronkowski 5-31, Brate 3-29, Johnson 2-30, Vaughn 2-9, Miller 1-8, Perriman 1-5, Howard 1-3.

INTERCEPTIONS: Tampa Bay, Barrett 1-17, Edwards 1-0.

SAN FRANCISCO 23, DALLAS 17

San Francisco

10670—23

Dallas

07010—17

First Quarter

SF: E.Mitchell 4run (Gould kick), 10:54.

SF: FG Gould 53, 4:53.

Second Quarter

SF: FG Gould 40, 9:40.

Dal: Cooper 20pass from Prescott (Zuerlein kick), 5:19.

SF: FG Gould 52, 3:03.

Third Quarter

SF: Samuel 26run (Gould kick), 5:50.

Fourth Quarter

Dal: FG Zuerlein 51, 11:53.

Dal: Prescott 5run (Zuerlein kick), 8:02.

TEAM STATS

SF

DAL

First downs

21

20

Total net yards

341

307

Rushes-yards

38-169

21-77

Passing

172

230

Punt returns

1-11

1-5

Kickoff returns

2-29

2-50

Interceptions ret.

1-0

1-23

Comp-att-int

16-25-1

24-44-1

Sacked-yards lost

0-0

5-40

Punts

4-44.75

5-53.6

Fumbles-lost

0-0

2-0

Penalties-yards

9-59

14-89

Time of possession

33:57

26:03

RUSHING: San Francisco, Mitchell 27-96, Samuel 10-72, Garoppolo 1-1, Dallas, Elliott 12-31, Prescott 4-27, Pollard 4-14, Lamb 1-5.

PASSING: San Francisco, Garoppolo 16-25-1-172, Dallas, Prescott 23-43-1-254, Anger 1-10-16.

RECEIVING: San Francisco, Aiyuk 5-66, Samuel 3-38, Jennings 3-29, Juszczyk 2-15, Kittle 1-18, Benjamin 1-17, Mitchell 1-(minus 11), Dallas, Schultz 7-89, Cooper 6-64, C.Wilson 5-62, Pollard 2-12, Lamb 1-21, Goodwin 1-16, Turner 1-6, Elliott 1-0.

MISSED FIELD GOALS: None.

SATURDAY’S LATE SUMMARY

BUFFALO 47, NEW ENGLAND 17

New England	0	3	7	7	—	17
Buffalo	14	13	6	14	—	47

First Quarter

Buf: Knox 8pass from Allen (Bass kick), 9:45.

Buf: Knox 11pass from Allen (Bass kick), :40.

Second Quarter

Buf: Singletary 3run (kick blocked), 7:20.

Buf: Singletary 16run (Bass kick), 1:53.

NE: FG Folk 44, :01.

Third Quarter

Buf: Sanders 34pass from Allen (kick blocked), 8:48.

NE: Bourne 3pass from M.Jones (Folk kick), 4:12.

Fourth Quarter

Buf: G.Davis 19pass from Allen (Bass kick), 13:22.

Buf: Doyle 1pass from Allen (Bass kick), 8:37.

NE: Bourne 4pass from M.Jones (Folk kick), 1:44.

TEAM STATS	NE	BUF
First downs	20	29
Total net yards	305	482
Rushes-yards	20-89	29-174
Passing	216	308
Punt returns	0-0	2-54
Kickoff returns	5-103	4-35
Interceptions ret.	0-0	2-0
Comp att-int	24-38-2	21-25-0
Sacked-yards lost	3-16	0-0
Punts	3-47-33.3	0-0-0
Penalties-yards	5-34	3-47
Time of possession	28:35	31:25

RUSHING: NE, Harris 9-77, Stevenson 8-67, M.Jones 2-18, Bourne 1-14, Buf, Singletary 16-81, Allen 6-66, McKenzie 3-29, Moss 1-0, Trubisky 3(-2).

PASSING: NE, M.Jones 24-38-2-232, Buf, Allen 21-25-0-308.

RECEIVING: NE, Bourne 7-77, Meyers 6-40, Stevenson 4-33, Bolden 4-27, Henry 1-30, Agholuor 1-18, Harris 1-7, Buf, Knox 5-89, Diggs 3-60, McKenzie 3-45, Singletary 3-13, Davis 2-41, Sanders 2-36, Beasley 1-19, Gilliam 1-4, Doyle 1-1.

WEATHER

MONDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Periods of rain, ending midday, chance for a rain or snow shower late, very breezy. South wind around 15 mph.

HIGH 43°
LOW 20°

TUESDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Becoming mostly sunny, breezy and cold.

HIGH 28°
LOW 13°

WEDNESDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Thickening afternoon cloudiness, chance for a rain or snow shower at night.

HIGH 40°
LOW 28°

THURSDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Chance for a rain or snow shower early, otherwise becoming partly sunny, breezy.

HIGH 33°
LOW 8°

FRIDAY

SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and unseasonably cold.

HIGH 20°
LOW 7°

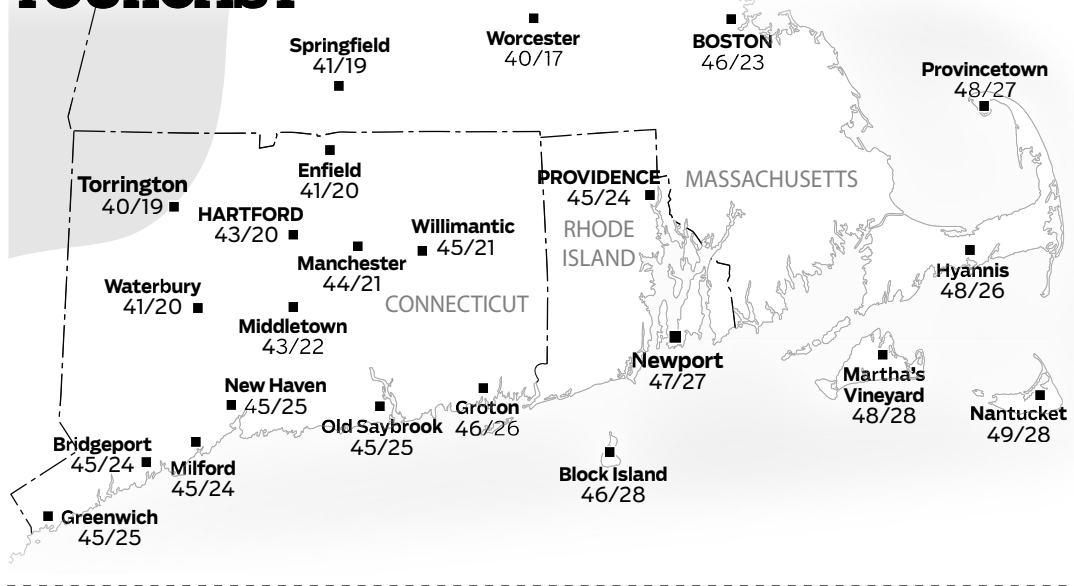
CONNECTICUT WEATHER

For the latest weather news throughout your day.

courant.com/weather

YOURCAST

Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



OUTLOOK

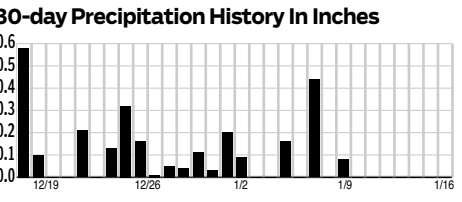
A powerful low pressure system will produce strong gusty and possibly damaging winds early this morning, especially along the shore, where peak wind gusts of 55 to 65 mph are possible. Moderate coastal flooding is expected around the time of high tide this morning. Periods of rain this morning will end as a few showers in the afternoon. Temperatures will be milder with highs in the 40s. A flurry is possible this evening, otherwise the clouds will be departing overnight allowing temperatures to drop into the low and mid-20s. Partly to mostly sunny, breezy and colder on Tuesday.

-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00 0.10
Month to date	0.97 1.76
Total this year	0.97 1.76
Snowfall In Inches	
Yesterday (by 4 p.m.)	0.0 0.5
Total this year	9.6 19.4

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks



Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	9:03 a.m.	2:50 a.m.	36°
	9:22 p.m.	3:34 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	10:14 a.m.	3:43 a.m.	39°
	10:33 p.m.	4:27 p.m.	
Connecticut River at Portland	12:35 a.m.	7:29 a.m.	
	12:57 p.m.	8:13 p.m.	
Madison	10:26 a.m.	4:07 a.m.	38°
	10:54 p.m.	4:44 p.m.	
New Haven	10:46 a.m.	4:31 a.m.	35°
	11:14 p.m.	5:08 p.m.	
Stamford	10:50 a.m.	4:45 a.m.	38°
	11:18 p.m.	5:22 p.m.	

River Stage at Hartford: 4.54 feet at 4:30 p.m.

Boating Weather	L.I. Sound W AM Rain	L.I. Sound E Rain	B.I. Sound Rain
Wind	S/SW, 20-30	S, 25-35	S/SW, 25-35
Seas	3-5 ft.	5-9 ft.	11-16 ft.

Air Quality Forecast For Today

Good 13

Low 1

24°

Air Quality Today Ultraviolet Index Today Wind Chill Today

Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise 7:15 a.m.	7:14 a.m.
Sunset 4:46 p.m.	4:48 p.m.
Moonrise 4:22 p.m.	5:24 p.m.
Moonset 7:22 a.m.	8:03 a.m.

Moon Phase

Full Jan 17

Last Jan 25

New Feb 1

First Feb 8

AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND

Bangor	38 20 SN	Baltimore	43 25 C	Nashville	41 28 C	San Juan	86 72 PC
Burlington	37 10 SN	Bismarck	36 18 C	New Orleans	59 41 S	Tucson	72 48 PC
Caribou	33 18 SN	Boise	35 13 C	New York	45 27 SH		
Concord	43 19 R	Buffalo	31 19 SN	Oklahoma City	60 35 S		
Montpelier	37 6 SN	Charleston	51 29 PC	Omaha	46 25 PC	Amsterdam	44 37 C
Mt. Wash.	23 -9 SN	Cincinnati	36 23 C	Orlando	65 41 PC	Athens	57 37 S
Portland	42 18 R	Cleveland	32 25 SF	Pittsburgh	34 23 SF	Bangkok	93 75 PC
Woods Hole	48 25 R	Indianapolis	32 23 C	Raleigh	45 23 PC	Barbados	83 75 SH
		Jacksonville	61 33 S	St. Louis	42 31 PC	Beirut	39 19 S
		Las Vegas	63 48 PC	Salt Lake City	44 26 PC	Berlin	55 46 S
		Miami Beach	71 56 S	San Antonio	73 43 S	Bermuda	45 34 SH
		Milwaukee	28 21 C	San Diego	66 57 C	Johannesburg	73 57 SH

NATION

Albany	41 17 R
Albuquerque	54 33 OS
Atlantic City	43 25 C

WORLD

Nassville	41 28 C	San Juan	86 32 S
New Orleans	59 41 S	Tucson	72 32 S
New York	45 27 SH		
Okla. City	60 35 S	WORLD	
Omaha	46 25 PC	Amsterdam	44 37 C
Orlando	65 41 PC	Athens	57 38 S
Pittsburgh	34 23 SF	Bangkok	93 93 S
Raleigh	45 23 PC	Barbados	98 93 S
St. Louis	42 31 PC	Beijing	39 39 S
Salt Lake City	46 26 PC	Beirut	55 35 S
San Antonio	73 43 S	Berlin	45 35 S
San Diego	66 57 C	Bermuda	72 32 S

PC Partly Cloudy. **R** Rain. **S** Showers. **SN** Snow.

KEY:

S Sunny, C Cloudy, PC Partly Cloudy, R Rain, SH Showers, SN Snow, SF Snow Flurries, T T-storms

Western Connecticut State University Weather Center

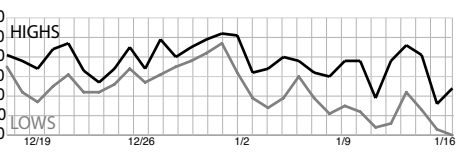
Weather page produced by

85 70 SH Stockholm 34 25 PC
59 41 PC Sydney 86 72 PC
45 34 S Tel Aviv 55 38 S
52 32 S Tokyo 54 32 S
71 45 SH Toronto 27 16 SN
50 30 PC Vancouver 43 41 R
23 10 SN Warsaw 36 28 SH
30 25 SN
73 63 PC
57 46 PC
43 34 C
43 32 SH
95 73 T
54 34 C
30 14 S
91 75 SH

Heating Degree Days

Season	Normal	Last Season
For July 1 - Jan 16	2425	2769
		2477

30-day Temperature History



Atmosphere

High	Low
30.46 at 9 a.m.	30.23 at 5 p.m.
Barometer	
Dew point	3° at 5 p.m.
	-9° at 12 a.m.

LOCAL SCOREBOARD

Saturday's late high school results

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Others
Westbrook 53, Wheeler 27
WHEELER (3-7): Adelaide Hauptmann 7-1-15, Marissa Perkins 3-0-7, Katelyn Pierce 1-0-2, Leah Cleary 0-1-1, Michelle Macina 1-0-2. Totals 12-2-27.
WESTBROOK (5-3): Adriana Stranieri 6-0-12, Leticia Pires 1-0-2, Jami Sacco 11-1-28, Alex Zanzalari 1-0-2, Allison Brajczewski 2-0-5, Olivia Palumbo 2-0-4. Totals 23-1-53.
WH 16 23 6 8 - 27
WE 16 23 6 8 - 53
Note: Sacco had a double-double with 11 rebounds. Pires had 10 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals. Stranieri and Zanzalari each had 5 steals.

BOYS HOCKEY

CCC-South
Enfield co-op 5, Hall 4
E 1 1 3 - 5
H 1 2 1 - 4
Goals: E—Luke Arsenaault (3), Josh Tyler, Jack Milkan
H—Hudson Hollander (2), William McCann, Ethan Stagg.
Saves: E—Tommy Terhune, 30
H—Aeden Mallett, 24. Rec.: E—3-5
H—3-3.

CCC-Inter
Wethersfield 4, Glastonbury 3(OT)
G 0 3 0 0 - 3
W 0 3 0 1 - 4
Goals: W—Ryan Mazur, Will McCarter, Jack Millen, Jay Socha
G—Zack Caporale (2), Aidan Adams.
Saves: W—Matthew Ruck, 25
G—Patrick Sullivan, 46. Rec.: W—5-2-2
G—3-5.
Note: Brady Quinn and Colby Quinn each had 2 assists for Wethersfield. Nick Huempfer and Alex Rodriguez each had 2 assists for Glastonbury.
SCC/SWC
Cheshire 5, Branford 4(OT)
B 2 2 0 0 - 4
C 0 3 1 1 - 5
Goals: C—Will Gaudet (2), Evan Vasiljevs (2), Andrew Vail
B—Matt Morgan (2), Jack Lindner, Michael Farricelli.
Saves: C—Amaan Chaudhry, 29
B—Dante DiLegge, 34. Rec.: C—3-4-2
B—2-5.
Note: Vasiljevs scored the OT winner, assisted by Ben Corris.

WRESTLING

Cornell 3, Yale 0
Sunday's college results

Others

RHAM Duals
RHAM 63, Middletown 15
RHAM 48, Bristol Eastern 33
RHAM 42, Plainville 33
Berlin Duals
Berlin 3, Woodland 0
Berlin 3, Watertown 0
Ellis Tech Duals
East Haven 45, Bacon Academy 31
New Fairfield 47, Bacon Academy 31
Ellis Tech 48, Bacon Academy 27
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
CCC
Farmington 121.45, Wethersfield 79.8
Monday's high school schedule
BOYS BASKETBALL
CCC-South: Maloney at Bristol Central, 6p.m.; Plainville at Bristol Eastern, 6p.m.
CCC-Inter: Glastonbury at Windsor, 3p.m.
CRAL: Achievement First at Capital Prep, 4p.m.
SCC: Sheehan at West Haven, 7p.m.
NVL: Kennedy at St. Paul, 4p.m.
Others: Hartford Public at Weaver, 2p.m.; Cheshire at Masuk, 3p.m.; Coventry at Lyman Memorial, 7p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Shoreline: Haddam-Killingworth at East Hampton, 2:30p.m.
SCC: Law at Hand, 4p.m.
ECC: Ledyard at Windham, 7p.m.
Others: Mercy at NFA, 1p.m.
BOYS HOCKEY
CCC-North: Farmington Valley at Simsbury, 7 p.m.
Others: SGWL at East Catholic, 12:30p.m.; McMahon/Norwalk at Northeastern, 1p.m.; Enfield co-op at BBD, 2p.m.; South Windsor at Cheshire, 2:30p.m.; Xavier at Darien, 4:30p.m.
GIRLS HOCKEY
Others: Suffield co-op at New Canaan, 11a.m.
Saturday's late college result
MEN'S HOCKEY
Cornell 3, Yale 0
Sunday's college results

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Wesleyan 84, Conn. College 64
Quinnipiac 72, Fairfield 66

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Wesleyan 72, Conn. College 46

MEN'S HOCKEY

Trinity 2, Bowdoin 1(OT)
Colby 4, Wesleyan 1
Quinnipiac 3, Dartmouth 1
Colgate at Yale, late

MEN'S SQUASH

Trinity 9, Cornell 0

WOMEN'S SQUASH

Trinity 7, Cornell 2

Monday's college schedule

MEN'S BASKETBALL

RIC at Eastern, 5p.m.
Yale at Brown, 5p.m.
Central at Sacred Heart, 7p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Albany at Hartford, 1p.m.
Brown at Yale, 1p.m.
Quinnipiac at St. Peter's, 1p.m.
Sacred Heart at Central, 2p.m.
Eastern at UMass-Dartmouth, 4p.m.
UConn at Oregon, 5p.m.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Quinnipiac at Union, 6p.m.

AHL

GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT
Atlantic	29	16	9	3	1	.36
Providence	33	18	11	3	1	.40
Springfield	34	18	11	3	2	.41
Hershey	31	16	10	3	2	.37
Hartford	32	17	13	2	0	.36
Charlotte	30	10	12	6	2	.28
Lehigh Valley	37	13	17	3	4	.33
Bridgeport	30	11	15	1	3	.26
W-B/Scranton	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS
North	28	20	4	4	0	.44
Utica	32	19	11	1	1	.40
Rochester						.625

Toronto	29	17	10	1	1	.36	.621
Laval	27	14	11	2	0	.30	.556
Cleveland	29	12	10	4	3	.31	.534
Syracuse	27	12	11	3	1	.28	.519
Bellville	30	15	15	0	0	.30	.500
Central	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT
Chicago	32	23	6	2	1	.49	.766
Manitoba	32	20	9	2	1	.43	.672
Grand Rapids	31	14	11	4	2	.34	.548
Rockford	28	14	12	1	1	.30	.536
Iowa	31	14	13	2	2	.32	.516
Milwaukee	35	13	18	2	2	.30	.429
Texas	27	9	14	3	1	.22	.407
Pacific	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS	PCT
Stockton	31	22	6	2	1	.47	.758
Ontario	28	18	6	3	1	.40	.714
Henderson	29	16	10	2	1	.35	.603
Colorado	32	16	11	3	2	.37	.578
Bakersfield	26	12	8	3	3	.30	.577
Tucson	28	12	13	2	1	.27	.482
Abbotsford	27	11	12	3	1	.26	.481
San Diego	26	11	13	2	0	.24	.462
San Jose	31	13	17	1	0	.27	.435

Sunday's results
Providence 6, Bridgeport 3
Texas 6, Charlotte 5
Toronto 4, Lehigh Valley 3(OT)
W-B/Scranton 2, Hershey 1
Monday's schedule
Belleville at Syracuse, 1p.m.
Chicago at Rockford, 2p.m.
Milwaukee at Iowa, 3p.m.
Abbotsford at Ontario, 6p.m.

BIG EAST BASKETBALL

Team	CONF	CPCT	OVR	PCT
Villanova	6-1	.857	13-4	.765
Providence	4-1	.800	14-2	.875
Xavier	3-2	.600	13-3	.813
Marquette	4-3	.571	12-6	.667
UConn	2-2	.500	11-4	.733
Creighton	2-2	.500	10-5	.667
St. John's	2-2	.500	10-5	.667
Butler	2-3	.400	9-7	.563
Seton Hall	2-4	.333	11-5	.688
DePaul	1-5	.167	10-6	.625
Georgetown	0-3	.000	6-8	.429

Sunday's results
Villanova 82, Butler 42
St. John's 88, Georgetown 69
Tuesday's schedule
Butler at UConn, 7p.m.
WOMEN'S

Team	CONF	CPCT	OVR	PCT
UConn	4-0	1.000	9-3	.750
Creighton	7-1	.875	12-4	.778
DePaul	6-1	.857	14-4	.778
Marquette	4-3	.571	11-5	.688
Villanova	3-3	.500	9-6	.600
Providence	3-4	.429	8-8	.500
Seton Hall	2-4	.333	7-7	.500
Georgetown	1-3	.250	6-6	.500
St. John's	1-4	.200	5-10	.333
Xavier	1-5	.167	6-9	.400
Butler	0-4	.000	1-12	.077

Sunday's results
Seton Hall 62, Providence 42
Creighton 86, St. John's 80
Villanova 58, Marquette 55
DePaul 102, Georgetown 69
Monday's schedule
UConn at Oregon, 5p.m.

HOCKEY EAST

Team	OGP	OVR	CGP	CONF	CPTS
UMass Lowell	19	13-3-3	13	10-2-1	31
UMass	18	10-6-2	11	7-2-2	24
Northeastern	21	15-5-1	11	7-3-1	23
Providence	25	15-9-1	13	6-7-0	19
Boston University	22	10-9-3	14	6-5-3	19
Boston College	21	10-8-3	13	5-6-2	19
UConn	18	9-9-0	11	6-5-0	18
Merrimack	21	10-10-1	12	5-7-0	18
New Hampshire	22	11-10-1	13	5-7-1	15
Vermont	18	3-13-2	10	2-6-2	8
Maine	21	3-14-4	13	1-10-2	7

Northeastern at Vermont, 5:30p.m.
WOMEN'S
Team

Team	OGP	OVR	CGP	CONF	CPTS
Northeastern	22	19-2-1	17	14-2-1	44
UConn	24	17-5-2	17	11-4-2	33
Boston University	21	9-8-4	16	8-5-3	27
Vermont	22	11-9-2	15	8-6-1	25
Boston College	20	10-10-1	15	8-7-0	22
Maine	22	8-13-1	15	6-8-1	22
New Hampshire	22	8-12-2	15	6-8-1	21
Providence	20	8-7-5	13	5-6-2	19
Merrimack	22	5-16-1	17	4-12-1	15
Holy Cross	19	3-16-0	14	1-13-0	3

Monday's schedule
Vermont at Holy Cross, 1p.m.

Listen to our top news stories for free.

Start now at PlayOurNews.com